

Of the Church • By the Church • For the Church

Luther League Review

The • Official • Organ • of the
Luther • League • of America

Whatsoever
ye would that
men should do
to you, do ye
even so to
them. Matthew VII - 12 -

Faith,
Hope
and Charity,
now the
greatest
of these
is
Charity

Golden Rule Sunday
December 7th
1924



The Luther League



of America
THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATION
 of the
UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
707 Muhlenberg Building

Philadelphia - - - - - Pennsylvania

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Our Slogan

A Luther League in every congregation; every young person in the League; the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW in every home; the faithful use of the Topics by every League.

Luther League Pamphlets

Machinery of the Local League—Harry Hodges	2 cents
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57 Varieties of Meetings for Intermediates	2 cents
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These are the best topics ever issued for use at young people's devotional meetings. The Lessons are arranged in accordance with the general plan of the Church Year. They are Biblical and Doctrinal, Historical and Missionary and contain appropriate Daily Bible Readings, Scripture references and illustrative suggestions. They are largely used and deserve to be adopted by every Lutheran Young People's Society.

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These books ought to be in the library of every Lutheran Sunday School and Young People's Society. For the list of these courses, see the Education, Intermediate and Junior Departments of the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW respectively.

The books can be secured from the United Lutheran Publication House, 1228 Spruce Street, Philadelphia.

Luther League Jewelry

For a list of same and prices, make application to the United Lutheran Publication House, 1228 Spruce Street, Philadelphia.

VOL. XXXVII

DECEMBER, 1924

No. 5

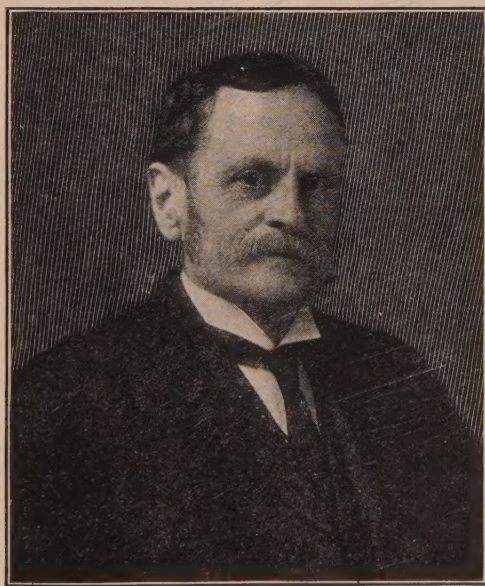
Published Monthly by LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW, 318 W. 39th Street, New York City
 Entered as Second-Class Matter, Aug. 9, 1900, at Post Office, New York, N. Y., under Act of Mar. 3, 1879.
 Subscription price, \$1.00 per year for single copies; 75 cents in clubs of ten or more.

Of the Church - By the Church - For the Church

Luther League Review

William Casper Stoeber, Litt.D.

President Luther League of America

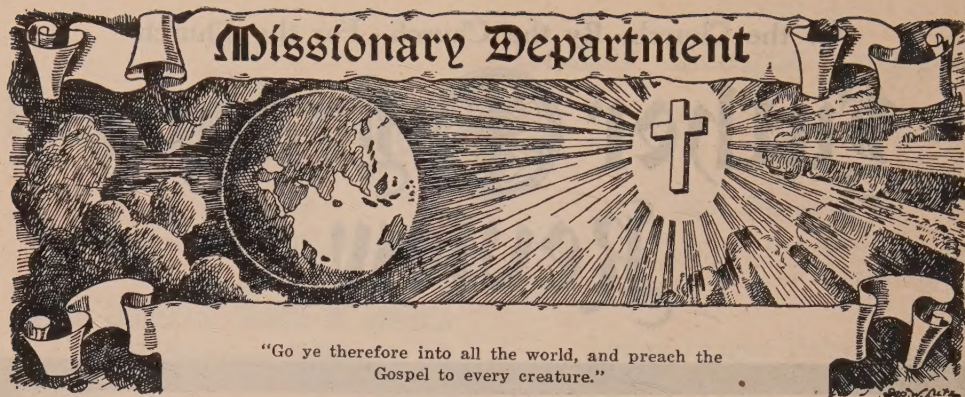


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O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are
Thine.

Alleluia!



"Go ye therefore into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature."

THE MISSIONARY PROGRAM FOR 1925

During the New Year we will study China and Home Missions—eight months on China and four with Home Missions.

The past year's experiences have reinforced the conviction that those Leagues are most active and have won the interest of most young folks, which have attempted real missionary programs. There is no part of the Church's task which will so fully arouse red-blooded youth as a missionary program that aims at something definite, including financial support.

China is not as well known to our young people as India, Japan or Africa. This year is truly our opportunity for "mission study."

Some suggestions:

1. Buy a large colored map of China and hang it on the wall in your meeting room. Write the Board of Publication. Keep it there for eight months. Have the geography of China thoroughly explained.

2. Make an attractive poster containing the outstanding facts about China's population, size, etc. You can easily get all such facts from a good encyclopaedia. Material will appear on this page during the months which you may use in making posters.

3. The Women's and Young Women's Missionary Societies will also study China this year. With their assistance in addition to the materials the Missionary Department and League page in *The Lutheran* suggest, you should have all you can possibly desire for the preparation of your programs.

4. The United Lutheran Church is just beginning a fine work in China. This year's study should enable you to "get in on the ground floor" and know the China situation and opportunity well.

5. Determine that these eight months of 1925 will not pass without you and your League having a real conception of China

as a country, as a mission field and as a people.

6. There are churches which hold Chinese Sunday Schools each Sunday afternoon for the laundrymen and other Chinese people in their city. Maybe your study this coming year will arouse your League to persuade your Church Council or Sunday School to establish a Chinese Sunday School in your church for the Chinese people in your city. Why not?

SOME OBSERVATIONS.

Just these observations about the conditions in China from the pen of Arthur Rugh, Senior Student-Secretary of the Y. M. C. A. Work in China.

"Politically, the country is in the worst condition it has ever been in. It is in the hands of military leaders, who have, in the main, the philosophy of militarism with all its follies. The real political question is a purely moral one. There is skill of statesmanship enough to handle the country well, but there is not a large enough number of thoroughly unselfish, honest men to take the positions of responsibility, and there is no solution for the political problem but in vital religion.

Religiously, the situation is very encouraging, though considerably confused. Two or three national movements will illustrate the confusion.

The Anti-Christian Chinese Student Federation was organized three years ago, to oppose the force of Christianity among students. It is rapidly dying out, and yet is a symptom of a widespread attitude, partly due to political and industrial conditions, perhaps partly due to Bolshevik atmosphere in the world.

The Renaissance Movement is the most important. It is a movement centering in the Imperial University, aiming to save China by science, and since they consider religion a superstition, they think it must

(Continued on page 6)



Life Service Department

"Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business."

LIFE SERVICE DAY

Some months ago we asked for some expression from our League leaders as to the advisability of uniting our annual Life Service Day with the Day of Prayer for Colleges, but we are yet waiting for that expression. Hence we are very much in the position of a certain pastor who was very unpopular with his congregation. A congregational meeting was called to determine whether or no he was to continue as pastor. His ignorance of Parliamentary Law stood him in good stead when he put the question saying all in favor of my staying here as your pastor say, aye. There was absolute silence. Without giving chance for a negative vote he announced the decision of the body saying, silence gives consent, so I shall remain with you. So we shall decide that silence gives consent and plans are being formulated to make February Life Service Month and the Decision Day to be at the time of the Day of Prayer for Colleges.

The book on Life Work as it appears in the Senior Reading Course will be an excellent one to use for your group study preceding Decision Day. Dr. Fleming's book, "Guide Posts to Life Work," is one of the best to appear. Get it from our publication Board, paper 50 cents.

We would call your attention to the "Balanced Ration" League Program of the Columbia District. This gives place to about every thing worth while in League work. Notice that February carries out our request. Again we say, "Go thou and do likewise."

DISTRICT RALLIES AND CONFERENCES.

Reports of the most encouraging kind are coming to our office from various States and Districts indicating glowingly successful results from their District Rallies and Conferences. Signed Decision Cards now numbering several thousand have been mailed to our office. Each correspondent indicates that he feels that even greater results have been accomplished in the "seed sown" by

directing the thoughts of youth to the great purpose in life—Christian Service. In almost every instance we are told that these are but beginnings of what can be and will be accomplished in the future. We are not one bit surprised because our young folk are just as open to conviction as any others dare be and a harvest will be gathered if the seed is properly sown. We can accomplish equally what others accomplish if we are equally in earnest and business-like. We have written of Epworth League Institutes before and here in substance is what a reporter tells us about

A FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD INSTITUTE.

The fourteenth annual session of the Institute at Baldwin, Kan., was about fourteen times as good as the first. Seven hundred and thirty-two Epworth Leaguers were enrolled. The faculty was second to none. Courses were offered in Old Testament, New Testament, Evangelism, Junior League, Foreign Missions, Life-Work, Citizenship, Home Missions, Pageantry, Music, General Methods, etc. Attractive evening programs with strong speakers, pageants, consecration and decision meetings. On Sunday morning a life service meeting was held and forty-four young people definitely pledged themselves to some form of Christian work.

We note also that many of the instructors were College Faculty men, suggesting the intimate relationship between League and College. These statements of facts above are by no means without suggestion for us. We note that one College President writes that *eighty per cent* of his students come directly from the personnel of the Epworth League Institutes.

Mr. Walter B. Foley, Life Work Secretary of the Epworth League, writes us that they had 130 Institutes last summer with 30,000 registered students and 2,500 young people who definitely pledged themselves to full time life service. Worth while? Why not "Go thou and do likewise."

"BALANCED-RATION" PROGRAM

OF

COLUMBIA DISTRICT LUTHER LEAGUE.

September.

"Rally Month."

Convention Echoes.

Local Executive Committee.

Plans Laid for Fall and Winter Work.

"Going Away to College Service."

October.

"Junior and Intermediate Month."

Meeting with Juniors and Intermediates.

Organizing either or both in own Church.

November.

"Extension Month."

Luther League Pageant and Service

No. 2. (Offering to District League.)

Senior Leagues organized in Churches of our own Conference that have none under the direction of the District Extension Committee.

December.

"Constitution Month."

Plan for Social from Press Committee.

January.

"Reading Month."

LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW.

Luther League Reading Course.

The Lutheran.

February.

"Stewardship Month."

Joint Day of Prayer and Life Service
Day Observed.

Stewardship and Tithing studied by means of pamphlets secured from our Board of Education, etc.

District Budget Drive.

March.

"Mission Month."

Mission Study Class.

Special gifts to Missions sent to the District Treasurer.

April.

"Quiet Hour Month."

Enlistment for quiet hour Comrades.

May.

"Service Month."

Every member doing at least one special thing to help his or her pastor.

June.

"Life Service Month."

Meeting with high school students near close of school term for definite life-work enlistment.

July.

"Picnic Month."

August.

"Vacation Month."

Triangular picnic.

September.

"Count on Me Month."

Preparation for 1925 Convention.

Plans laid for 1925 work.



MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

(Continued from page 4)

be put out of the country before they can save the country, by science. This is at present the most dominant influence in the student thought life of the country.

The Tao Yuan Movement is a recent movement, spreading rapidly among the official and higher classes. It is a movement to save China by religion; but finding no religion which they consider adapted to the saving of China, they propose a uniting of the five great religions, Christianity, Confucianism, Buddhism, Taoism and Mohammedanism.

In any case, these and other similar movements are symptoms of an urging hunger on China's part to find some solution for her problem and at least a hope that religion will solve it."

While you are giving— give health

THE greatest gift of all is health. You can give that priceless treasure of health to many this Christmas. Buy Christmas Seals. Everywhere are solitary sufferers and whole families stricken by the Great White Plague. Often they have no help except that furnished by the Tuberculosis Associations, which are financed by the annual sale of Christmas Seals.

Give—and feel the joy that comes with giving. Buy Christmas Seals. They have helped stamp out half the ravages of consumption. Buy Christmas Seals, and help stamp out the dread disease entirely.



STAMP OUT
TUBERCULOSIS
WITH
CHRISTMAS
SEALS

THE NATIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL TUBERCULOSIS
ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES

MONTAGUE-CAPULET

"Come down from the balcony, my Juliet."

"Have you a couple of orchestra seats?"

—Wesleyan Wasp.



Methods

ORGANIZATION

1. *The League That Did Not Change Its Officers.*

A Luther League wondered why it did not grow and why it did not hold its young people.

New members came into the society, but they did not stay long.

The meetings were carefully planned, there seemed to be nothing wrong with the way in which the Topics were studied.

The officers were capable and efficient.

But there was just one trouble.

The same officers had been elected to their respective offices year after year for a number of years.

Naturally, they, in carrying out the program, called upon the same ones to help.

The Committees were practically reappointed every year.

The program leaders appointed at the beginning of the year were practically the same ones who had led the meeting the year before, and the year before that.

And the result was that there were no new workers being trained.

All the efficiency, all the leadership, all the knowledge of League work was locked up in a few persons.

An experienced leader from another town visited the League and diagnosed the case.

New leaders were appointed, young Leaguers untried at the work.

New committees were appointed, and leaders for each meeting appointed among those who had never thought of leading a meeting before.

The conduct of the League was given into their hands.

The experienced workers stepped aside, not to drop out of the work but to stand shoulder to shoulder with the new workers, ready with their counsel and advice, and ready to step in and help in any emergency which might arise.

The result was that new life was instilled into the League.

The first business of any League is to develop leaders and workers and the only way for a young person to learn to lead a meeting is to lead it, to be a President, Secretary,

Treasurer, is to serve in such a capacity.

Change your official force frequently, no matter how acceptable the service rendered has been, and for the sake of the League train new workers into a knowledge of the conduct of the society.

2. *The League That Had Too Many Committees.*

A League did not seem to be getting anywhere.

They planned their work, yes, they had a Committee for this, and a Committee for that, in fact, so many committees that they overlapped, and none of them knew exactly just what their work was.

The result was none accomplished very much.

It was something like the manufacturing plant that put in an elaborate system of records, with different colored cards for each department, etc., and in a short time found that it took so much of their time to work the system that they had no time for the manufacture of the product which the plant put out!

Sometimes we have so many Committees in the League that in running them we lose sight of the real work of the League.

There are only four needed—Devotional, Membership, Missionary and Social.

Have good strong committees under these four departments, and let them do the work.

3. *The League That Didn't Send a Delegate to a Convention.*

They didn't think it necessary!

They forgot the new vision, the inspiration, the information and wealth of good things which goes with a convention.

They missed a vital part of League life.

4. *The League That Didn't Believe in Training the Children to Take Their Places!*

They did not realize that they needed to train the future workers of the Church to take their places.

They could not see the advantage of a Junior or an Intermediate Luther League.

They forgot that one can as soon cut down a tree at its roots, and then expect to see green branches, as to expect a League to flourish that does not provide for the chil-

(Continued on page 9)



The Social Meeting



"A MAN'S AMUSEMENTS ARE REALLY A SERIOUS PART OF HIS LIFE. IT IS AS ESSENTIAL TO KNOW HOW TO RECREATE ONE'S SELF AS IT IS TO KNOW HOW TO CREATE. WE MUST LEARN TO PLAY."

CHRISTMAS SUGGESTIONS.

Write the invitations on paper cut in the shape of Christmas trees, holly leaves, stockings, or stars.

Decorate with holly and mistletoe; cotton to represent snow; Christmas tree; holly wreathes tied with red bows; red and green streamers of crepe paper.

Have a League Christmas tree—each guest brings a small gift with a verse attached—these are hung on the tree and afterward sent to a Home or Hospital.

Make Christmas tree decorations, decorate several small trees and send them to poor families in the neighborhood for Christmas.

Singing Christmas carols, and plan to go out Christmas morning and sing for shut-ins.

Cut up Christmas postals in about five pieces each. Mix these and place in center of table. Let guests put them together.

Get together in the church kitchen and make Christmas candies.

Have a part of some Christmas story such as Dicken's "Christmas Carol" or "The Other Wise Man," read.

Arrange a formal program of Christmas selections, musical and literary, and give this at the Old Folk's Home—adapted from *Handbook of Games and Programs*.

GAMES.

Christmas Snowballs.—Divide your crowd into two sides. Line the players up and give a basket decorated with holly and red ribbon to the leader of each group. Place on the floor before each line a row of five cotton snowballs. The race is now to be run after the fashion of a potato race. The first person picks up the snowballs, put them in the basket, and returns to deliver the basket to the next in line. This person now replaces the snowballs on the floor in proper place. And so on it goes until every player has run the course.—*Phunology*.

Red Stocking Game.—Have two large red stockings. Have all sized packages to put in the stockings. Packages must be passed

one at a time down the line and placed on the floor beside the last person, then passed back up the line and placed in the stocking. Line to finish first wins.—*Epworthian's Fun Book*.

The Night Before Christmas.—Write on this poem, leaving out an important word now and then. See which party can fill in the most missing words first and correctly.—*Epworthian's Fun Book*.

Mince Pie.—Cut thin cardboard to represent big pieces of pie. Thereon write Christmas words pied (that is jumbled). Write about ten on each piece. The side to rearrange the words in their proper order first wins.

A CHRISTMAS BANQUET.

The League may want to have a more formal social during the Christmas holidays.

A banquet where plans for the work for the coming year could be discussed would be fitting.

The decorations would add greatly to the occasion.

Holly and pine placed about the room above the pictures, etc., would add to the holiday appearance.

Red paper bells swung from the center light in the room and garlands of red extending to the four corners of the table are effective.

Crepe-paper table cloths with napkins to match in Christmasy design should be used.

Artificial snow sprinkled over the table will make it glisten attractively.

Place cards can be simply made by using white calling cards and pasting a Christmas seal in the corner, writing the name in red ink.

A Jack Horner Pie might be the centre of attraction on the table.

This is made in this manner.

A large white bowl is covered with white paper, and the top closed over with a crust of white tissue paper.

Protruding from this and hanging gracefully over the edge of the bowl are a number of ribbons, red for the girls, green for the boys.

There should be a few extras for absentees.

To the hidden end of these ribbons is attached a small, inexpensive gift or favor (procurable from the five and ten-cent store).

The edge of the pudding and the table around it is decorated with holly and poinsettias.

At a given time all grasp one of the ribbons and procure one of the favors.

The menu cover should be in red, with white leaves, typed in red, and tied with red ribbon.

The following menu might be served:

Chicken Salad—Pimento Cheese Sandwiches, Cake, Dates, stuffed with Almonds; Christmas candy, Assorted Nuts, Celery, stuffed with Cream Cheese and Walnuts; Ice Cream, Hot Chocolate.—Adapted from *A Year of Recreation and Eighty Pleasant Evenings*.

ORGANIZATION

(Continued from page 7)

dren of the Church, and train them for leadership in the League.

5. *The League That Just Held Its Meetings.*

They did not see the need of having social affairs.

Or of Bible study.

Or of having a mission study class.

Or of arranging any special meetings.

They were content to go along with just their regular meetings.

Sometimes Leagues like that grow at last to feel that it isn't any use to even hold the regular meetings!

6. *The League That Didn't Have Any Special Aim.*

Once there was a League that didn't know of any special bit of service that it might do.

It didn't know about the support of native workers on the mission field in which it might have helped.

Or of the work of our orphan home in which it might have been interested.

Or of the support of a young man studying for the ministry.

Or of the inner mission work in the big cities in which young people are needed so much as assistants.

Or of the thousand and one other definite bits of work in which they might have been engaged.

And they missed the joy of service!

For fear, however, that you may think us over-critical and fault-finding with every sort of League, in ours of next month we will tell you something of the other kind of League.

Unusual Christmas Programs for Leagues and Sunday Schools

It Came to Pass in Those Days. Just out. Eyewitnesses tell what they saw and heard that Holy Night. Beautiful Bible scenes, presenting the "old, old story" in a new way. No Memorizing. Per copy, 25 cents.

Stars and Angels. Novel features for all departments of the Sunday school. Delightful effects and surprising stunts. Class exercises, motion songs, primary pieces, etc. Out of the beaten track. Per copy, 35 cents.

Christmas Pageantry. A collection of short and easy pageants and pantomimes for the holidays. Full of "snap" and "pep," yet sacred and reverent. Very little memorizing, and suitable for both large and small schools. Per copy, 35 cents.

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The Holy Story in Pantomime. A striking Christmas entertainment, portraying the Biblical account of the Nativity in a new and vivid way. The spellbound audience follows the rendition from Nazareth to Bethlehem town. No memorizing. Per copy, 25 cents.

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The Birth of Christ. The Christmas story dramatized. Nothing else like it in print. Hundreds of testimonials. This is the seventh edition. The thrill of Holy Night is in every line. Per copy, 25 cents.

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General Secretary's Letter

Dear Luther Leaguers:—

Since my last letter, the most important happening in Lutheran circles has been the convention of the United Lutheran Church in Chicago. It was the greatest convention that our Church has held and the most harmonious that any church has held. A full account of its proceedings will be found in *The Lutheran*, and as all good Luther Leaguers read *The Lutheran*, your Secretary need not use the REVIEW for that purpose.

There were two items of business, however, of special interest to Luther Leaguers, and these we mention:

First, beginning with the year 1926, the Luther League of America will receive annually from the treasury of the United Lutheran Church, five thousand dollars per annum.

Second, the convention adopted the report of the Executive Board which stamped its approval upon the scheme of the Luther League of America and the Women's Missionary Society for the co-ordination of the work among children.

This item from the report is herewith quoted in full:

"After numerous conferences of representatives of the Women's Missionary Society, the Luther League and the Parish and Church School Board, agreement was reached which was submitted to the Executive Board in the following form:

Whereas, It is our judgment that the work of the Luther League and that of the Women's Missionary Society are of a different character in the development of their programs, therefore,

Be It Resolved, That we request the Executive Board of the United Lutheran Church to permit the work among the children in the United Lutheran Church to remain in statu quo for the time being and a committee be appointed of equal representation from the Parish and Church School Board, the Women's Missionary Society and the Luther League by the respective agencies to co-ordinate programs.

Young People. The Young People's question having been definitely and conclusively settled when the United Lutheran Church

in America made the Luther League of America its official young people's organization, the Luther League of America at the same time realizing the need of young women's missionary societies, therefore waives its right to dispute the question of the missionary training of the young women there really existing no conflict between the young women's missionary societies and the Luther League, and the Women's Missionary Society waives the right that is given it by its constitution to organize Young People's Societies, and in accord with the policy of co-ordination reports that it has changed its Young People's Department to Young Women's Department.

In connection with these statements, the conference adopted also the following:

"That we have in this paper a basis which, while not entirely satisfactory, may be accepted as a basis on the lines of which the two organizations may seek to reach a complete understanding and solution of the problem of work with the children among young people."

As a matter of interpretation the committee agreed by the words "in statu quo" it is understood that the field of the Light Brigade is from birth to confirmation; that the Women's Missionary Society is at liberty to work among girls and young women of any age, and that the Luther League is at liberty to continue its work through its Junior, Intermediate and Senior Departments, train its members in accordance with the constitution of its several departments.

The Executive Board approved of these propositions and directed the President of the Parish and Church School Board to call the committee together and put the plans agreed upon into operation as soon as possible.

Now that these agencies have the confidence of the Church in formulating a program, your Secretary trusts that they will have confidence in each other individually, and collectively, and work harmoniously.

Note the three sets of topics for 1925 in their respective departments. The Junior Department has provided for one-third of the year only, thinking that by the coming

(Continued on page 27)

HARRY HODGES, Editor.
Philadelphia, Pa. Send all
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and news items to 707
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Luther League Review

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE LUTHER LEAGUE
ISSUED MONTHLY BY THE

Luther League of America

IN THE INTERESTS OF

The United Lutheran Church and Her Young People

E. F. EILERT, Publisher.
New York.

Subscription, \$1.00 a year for
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der, Draft, or Registered
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tions relating to business to
LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW,
707 Muhlenberg Bldg., Phila-
delphia, Pa.

Entered at the New York
Post Office as Second Class
Matter.

ONE OF THE WONDERS OF CHRISTMAS

THERE were many remarkable things about Christmas. There always are, and none, or so it seems to us, is more wonderful than this:

Many men profess no belief in a Higher Power. Some of these are openly, honestly agnostic. The wisdom of the ages is revered by them in all things save this one, which points to the existence and dominant power of the Eternal Mind.

Christmas came. And these men flocked to its shrine! There was no significance in their gift-giving, they would have said, nor in their remembrance of the poor and unfortunate. There was no conscious admission of any semblance to a religious sentiment in their splendid attitude toward their fellow men, as they glowed with good will, and forgave their enemies, and forgot the petty things, and wished the whole world a merry, merry Christmas.

But their hearts were softer and their eyes kindlier, and the joy of making others happy glowed in their souls and radiated from their beings. And some of them, you may be sure, looked out and recalled some other Christmases of many years ago and remembered some stories they had heard then of a Star in the East, and a Child that was laid in a manger and a legend of cattle down on their knees.

They will go back to the old lives when Christmas is over. Memories will sleep again. But Christmas was one day in their lives, and its influence will never die.

This is the wonder, this the transcendent glory of Christmas Day, that all men, however far they may wander from the Truth, come back one day each year, unconsciously—yes, quite unconsciously—to the rude cradle of the Babe of Bethlehem, and offer there their gold and frankincense and myrrh.

It is the conquest of men who will not knowingly bow the knee. They may say

what they will, and may say it loudly and often, but against their will and without their knowledge—such is the power of the Christ Child—their hearts have uttered the cry of the apostate: "Nazarene, Thou hast conquered.".

LEGEND OF THE MISTLETOE

"The mistletoe bough," according to an old Scandinavian legend, was responsible for the death of Balder, the son of Odin, and the God of Eloquence and Poetry. Having informed his mother, Friga, that a dream had warned him of his imminent death she invoked all the powers of earth—fire, air, earth and water (including all animals and plants)—to come to his rescue. In the combats of the gods, therefore, he found himself uninjured.

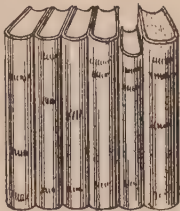
But Loake, his deadly enemy, was determined to discover the secret of his invulnerability, and by judiciously flattering Friga, and praising the prowess of her son, obtained from her the reason. She foolishly told him there was one feeble little shoot she had not thought it necessary to invoke—the mistletoe.

The treacherous Loake immediately procured a branch of the mistletoe, and entering the assembly of the gods presented an arrow made from it to blind Heda, with the words—"Balder is before thee. Shoot!" He shot and Balder fell, pierced and slain.

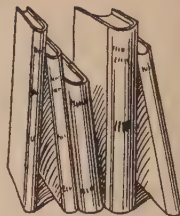
And countless thousands have since been "slain" and will be slain for ages to come with "darts" from "mistletoe bough."

MONUMENT TO HYMN WRITER

The village of Oberndorf near Salzburg, Austria, is erecting a monument in commemoration of the 100th anniversary a few years ago of the writing of the hymn "Silent Night, Holy Night," written by Joseph Mohr, in 1818, considered the most popular Christmas carol in use throughout the world.



Educational Department



DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

THE PRAYER BEFORE THE READING.

"Blessed Lord, who has caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of Thy Holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which Thou hast given us in our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen."

THE PRAYER AFTER THE READING.

"Almighty and everlasting God, Who of Thy great mercy in Jesus Christ, Thy Son, dost grant us forgiveness of sin, and all things pertaining to life and godliness: grant us, we beseech Thee, Thy Holy Spirit, that He may so rule our hearts that we, being ever mindful of Thy fatherly mercy, may strive to mortify the flesh and overcome the world; and serving Thee in holiness and pureness of living, may give Thee continued thanks for Thy goodness through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. Amen."

READING THE BOOKS OF THE LAW DURING THE YEAR

Monday, December 1—Encourage the People to Battle. Deut. 20:1-9.

Tuesday, December 2—Trees That May Not be Destroyed. Deut. 20:10-20.

Wednesday, December 3—An Uncertain Murder. Deut. 21:1-9.

Thursday, December 4—Stubbornness. Deut. 21:10-23.

Friday, December 5—Difference in Sex. Deut. 22:1-11.

Saturday, December 6—Confusion to Be Avoided. Deut. 22:12-30.

Sunday, December 7—Uncleanness in the Host. Deut. 23:1-14.

Monday, December 8—Concerning Vows. Deut. 23:15-25.

Tuesday, December 9—Laws Concerning Pledges. Deut. 24:1-13.

Wednesday, December 10—Justice and Charity. Deut. 24:14-22.

Thursday, December 11—Laws in General. Deut. 25:1-19.

Friday, December 12—Offering of First fruits. Deut. 26:1-11.

Saturday, December 13—Covenant With God. Deut. 26:12-19.

Sunday, December 14—Altars of Stones. Deut. 27:1-13.

Monday, December 15—Gerizim and Ebal. Deut. 27:14-26.

Tuesday, December 16—Blessings for Obedience. Deut. 28:1-14.

Wednesday, December 17—Curses for Disobedience. Deut. 28:15-30.

Thursday, December 18—Curses for Disobedience. Deut. 28:31-44.

Friday, December 19—Curses for Disobedience. Deut. 28:45-57.

Saturday, December 20—Curses for Disobedience. Deut. 28:58-68.

Sunday, December 21—Moses Exhorts to Obedience. Deut. 29:1-9.

Monday, December 22—God Enters Into the Covenant. Deut. 29:10-29.

Tuesday, December 23—Mercy Promised to Repentant. Deut. 30:1-14.

Wednesday, December 24—Death and Life are Set Before Them. Deut. 30:15-20.

Thursday, December 25—The Charge Given to Joshua. Deut. 31:1-15.

Friday, December 26—Book of Laws to Levites. Deut. 31:16-30.

Saturday, December 27—Moses' Song. Deut. 32:1-35.

Sunday, December 28—Moses' Song and Departure. Deut. 32:36-52.

Monday, December 29—Blessings of the Tribes. Deut. 33:1-17.

Tuesday, December 30—Blessings of the Tribes. Deut. 33:18-29.

Wednesday, December 31—Moses' Death and Mourning for Him. Deut. 34:1-12.

SENIOR TOPICS—1925. THEME: FRIENDLINESS.

Jan. 4—Sunday After New Year. *How Can We Develop the Spirit of Friendliness?* Prov. 18:24; I Saml. 18:1-4.

Jan. 11.—First Sunday After Epiphany. *How to Read the Bible Helpfully.* Psalm 19:7-14; Matt. 7:24-29.

Jan. 18—Second Sunday After Epiphany. *The League's Part in Our Church's Program.* Rom. 12:3-13.

Jan. 25—Third Sunday After Epiphany. (Missionary.) *The Lutheran Church in China.* Matt. 28:18-20.

Feb. 1—Fourth Sunday After Epiphany. *The Luther League as an Expression of Friendliness.* Phil. 2:1-11.

Feb. 8.—Septuagesima Sunday. *The Conquest of Selfishness.* Rom. 15:1-7; Matt. 16:22-27.

Feb. 15—Sexagesima Sunday. *A Striking Incident in the Life of Christ.* Luke 19:1-10.

Feb. 22—Quinquagesima Sunday. (Missionary.) *Changing China.* Psalm 2.

March 1—First Sunday in Lent. *The Cost of Friendliness.* John 15:13, 14; I Sam. 20:1-4, 16, 42.

March 8—Second Sunday in Lent. *The Master's Method of Winning Followers.* John 1:35-51.

March 15—Third Sunday in Lent. *Preparation for Winning Others to Christ.* Matt. 4:18-20; Acts 1:14; 2:1-4.

March 22—Fourth Sunday in Lent. *What Can We Do to Win Others to Christ?* I Peter 3:8-16.

March 29—Fifth Sunday in Lent. (Missionary.) *China's New Women.* Mark 16:1-9.

April 5—Palm Sunday. *What Should the Church Expect of Me?* II Tim. 2:1-7, 15-26.

April 12—Easter Sunday. *What Does the Resurrection of Jesus Mean to Me?* I Cor. 15:1-20, 49-57.

April 19—First Sunday After Easter. *My Church (Congregation): Its History and Development.* Acts 1:1-8; II Tim. 3:14-17.

April 26—Second Sunday After Easter. (Missionary.) *Under the Smokestacks.* Matt. 13:54-58.

May 3—Third Sunday After Easter. *How Can We Help to Make Home Happy?* Eph. 4:29-5:2.

May 10—Fourth Sunday After Easter. *Where and How Should We Spend Sunday?* Psalm 122:1-9; Heb. 10:25.

May 17—Fifth Sunday After Easter. *How to Make the Most of Summer.* Mark 6:31, 32; Rom. 13:11-14.

May 24—Sunday After Ascension. *Christian Traits Worth Striving for.* Phil. 4:4-8; Matt. 18:1-6.

May 31—Whit-Sunday. (Missionary.) *China—The Struggle for Faith.* Hebrews 11:8-10, 23-25.

June 7—Trinity Sunday. *How Should We Invest Our Lives?* (Life Service.) Rom. 12:1, 2; I Cor. 10:31-33.

June 14—First Sunday After Trinity. *Leadership: Its Price and Its Reward.* II Cor. 12:11-21; II Tim. 4:6-8.

June 21—Second Sunday After Trinity. *Life as an Obstacle Race.* Heb. 12:1-4.

June 28—Third Sunday After Trinity. (Missionary.) *Wedding Bells Around the World.* Matt. 22:1-14.

July 5—Fourth Sunday After Trinity. *What Makes a Nation Great?* Deut. 28:1-14.

July 12—Fifth Sunday After Trinity. *The Progress and Achievements of the Negro in America.* Psalms 40:1-5; Prov. 22:29.

July 19—Sixth Sunday After Trinity. *The Beatitudes of the New Testament.* Matt. 5:1-12; John 20:29; Rom. 4:7.

July 26—Seventh Sunday After Trinity. (Missionary.) *Taking Care of Our Workers.* Matt. 6:19-21.

Aug. 2—Eighth Sunday After Trinity. *God's Friendliness as Expressed in Nature.* Matt. 6:26-30; Psalms 145:16.

Aug. 9—Ninth Sunday After Trinity. *The Benefits of Wholesome Play.* Mark 6:31, 32; Luke 2:52.

Aug. 16—Tenth Sunday After Trinity. *Rules for the Game of Life.* II Tim. 2:5, 15; I Cor. 9:24-27; I Peter 2:11-17.

Aug. 23—Eleventh Sunday After Trinity. *Perils of Anger, Envy and Hatred.* Matt. 5:21, 22; I John 3:11-15.

Aug. 30—Twelfth Sunday After Trinity. (Missionary.) *Missionary Guest Day.* Acts 1:7-9.

Sept. 6—Thirteenth Sunday After Trinity. *What Can Young People Do for International Friendship?* Matt. 28:19, 20; Acts 17:22-31; Gal. 3:26-29.

Sept. 13—Fourteenth Sunday After Trinity. *The Harvest of Our Lives: What Shall It Be?* Gal. 6:7-10; Prov. 11:17-20; II Cor. 5:10.

Sept. 20—Fifteenth Sunday After Trinity. (Board of Ministerial Relief.) *"Lest We Forget."* Psalms 71.

Sept. 27—Sixteenth Sunday After Trinity. (Missionary.) *Way of Christ in Race Relations—Through Education.* Romans 11:33-36.

Oct. 4—Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity. *How Can the Luther League Benefit the Community?* Matt. 5:13-20.

Oct. 11—Eighteenth Sunday After Trinity. *They "First Gave Their Own Selves."* (A Stewardship Meditation.) II Cor. 8:1-15.

Oct. 18—Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity. *What Is Expected of a Christian Citizen?*

(Citizenship Day.) Mic. 6:8; Tit. 3:1-8.
Oct. 25—Twentieth Sunday After Trinity.
(Missionary.) *Way of Christ in Race Relations—Through Industry.* Mark 1:16-18, Acts 18:3.

Nov. 1—Twenty-first Sunday After Trinity.
How Can We Live by the Golden Rule?
Matt. 7:12; Lev. 19:18; Gal. 6:1.

Nov. 8—Twenty-second Sunday After Trinity.
Learning How to Pray. Matt. 6:5-15.

Nov. 15—Twenty-third Sunday After Trinity.
How Can We Overcome the Spirit of Lawlessness? Rom. 13:1-8.

Nov. 22—Twenty-fourth Sunday After Trinity.
God's Bounties: How Can We Share Them With Others? (Thanksgiving Meeting.) Matt. 25:34-40.

Nov. 29—First Sunday in Advent. (Missionary.) *Way of Christ in Race Relations—Through the Home.* Acts 16:25-34.

Dec. 6—Second Sunday in Advent. *How Can We Translate Christmas Into Service?* I John 4:7-14.

Dec. 13—Third Sunday in Advent. *Bible Principles of Giving.* Lev. 27:30; I Cor. 16:1-4, 14.

Dec. 20—Fourth Sunday in Advent. *Why is Christmas a Time of Joy?* (Christmas Meeting.) Matt. 1:18-23; II Cor. 9:15.

Dec. 27—First Sunday After Christmas. (Missionary.) *Way of Christ in Race Relations—Through the Church.* Matt. 16:15-18.

SUNDAY AFTER NEW YEAR.

January 4, 1925.

HOW CAN WE DEVELOP THE SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP?

Prov. 18:24; I Samuel 18:1-4.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday—Gal. 5:16, 22-26.

Tuesday—I John 1:6-7.

Wednesday—John 6:1-15.

Thursday—I John 3:16-19.

Friday—Romans 12:3-9.

Saturday—I Cor. 13:4-7.

HINTS FOR LEADERS.

The first of the year is a good time to decide on some motto for the months that follow. The League will profit much from such a selection. Some phase of *Friendliness* would be very suitable for this thought is carried out in the topics for the year.

Have some one look up fifteen or twenty verses about friendship or friends from Proverbs and read them to the League. Abraham was called the friend of God. (James 2:23.) The story of a part of his life will be appropriate for this meeting.

A discussion of one of the following subjects will add life to your meeting: "The Friendliness of Nations," "Being Friendly With the Foreigner in Our Own Land," and "Meeting Him Half Way."

Such hymns as "Lord, Speak to Me, That

I May Speak," "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," and "There's a Friend for Little Children," will be appropriate.

TOPIC.

A good friend is a blessing from on high. A man without a friend is certainly in need. Christ said that He was a friend of publicans and sinners. They understood Him to mean that He was willing to associate with them. Their problems became His. His life became a part of them. A real companion in this life is worth more than riches and honor.

An intimate acquaintance is one that will treasure your confidence. All that you tell him is in safe keeping. You open your heart to him knowing that each utterance is respected and appreciated. He responds to all your emotions. What is joy for you brings happiness into his heart.

A friendship is not onesided. The sympathy and response of life and pleasure ought to be returned. The confidences that are shared should be mutual. A companion who betrays the intimacies which are sacred to both is not worthy of that friendship. Associations do not last long unless they are responsive. To have a good friend is to be a good friend. One can not expect others to pour their secrets and plans in his ears if he keeps his own ideas and heart throbs to himself.

Friendliness deserves developing if one does not already possess the trait. The road in this world is a hard one to travel if there is no one to share its joys and sorrows. The spirit of comradeship is a life quality. It can not be picked up here and laid down at will. The brotherly habit ought to live all through life. All people can have as many companions and friends as they wish if they will only cultivate the kindly habit of being sympathetic with the people they meet.

The old adage, "Birds of like feathers flock together," is certainly true. Similar ideas and principles soon gather a crowd. The character of those with whom you are intimate will reveal to you what you are. Relationships usually develop a spirit of comradeship of a higher or lower type. You have the privilege yourself to lift or lower the state of those about you.

The real spirit of friendliness is assured to those who are willing to go half way. One can not expect other people to overstep their ideals and boundaries simply for another. There is a happy meeting ground whereon both may greet each other and form an agreement of friendship. Good neighbors and good friends belong to those who can and will be a good neighbor and friend.

The first of the year is a good time to

begin the development of such a trait. One year of effort will implant the spirit of friendliness so deep in your heart and life that it will be very difficult to uproot it. The friendly spirit is courted and loved by all. The neighborhood and the community always speak kindly of the friendly man or woman. The world wants comradeship and if you are able to give it you have not only shown one of the most noble phases of character but also brought comfort to a lonely world.



FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.

January 11, 1925.

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE HELPFULLY

Psalms 19:7-14; Matt. 7:24-29.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday—Psalms 1.

Tuesday—Rev. 1:1-3.

Wednesday—Jude 1-4.

Thursday—1 Peter 2:1-5.

Friday—Col. 3:16-17.

Saturday—I Cor. 10:1-12.

HINTS FOR LEADERS.

A PROGRAM.

Helpful Hints From the Bible Itself.

- 1—Hymn—"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word."
- 2—Opening Versicles.
- 3—Psalms 19. (Read responsively followed by Gloria Patri.)
- 4—Hymn—"Come, Holy Spirit, Come."
- 5—Scripture Reading (II Chron. 34:14-21, 29-32) and Prayer.
- 6—Bible Reading. Proverbs 4:1-13.
- 7—Bible Reading. Deut. 11:18-21.
- 8—Bible Reading. Josh. 1:8, 9.
- 9—Special Music. (A hymn with variations, instrumental.)
- 10—Bible Reading. I Cor. 1:18-31.
- 11—Bible Reading. John 5:39-47.
- 12—Bible Reading. II Tim. 3:11-17.
- 13—Hymn—"Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing."
- 14—Business. Benediction.

TOPIC.

Christianity will not live without a close contact with the Bible. Lives and hearts of mankind can not remain true to the right pathway of life without this guide book. When the individual or the Church outgrows this volume of sacred history and revelation there is no hope for either. The Holy Spirit operates only through the sacred Scriptures. If these are neglected there is no light from God for this sinful world.

The human race is careful to keep itself physically fit for it has learned that the race of life is entirely too important to go into it unprepared. It is time that the same race understands that it is spiritual as well as physical, and that it is more important

to be spiritually fitted for eternity. The one and only way to keep the entire life alive and filled with the love of God is to continually drink from the spring of God's revelation—the Holy Bible.

One of the shortcomings of the present age is the lack of Bible reading. The ignorance of church people concerning the simple things of the Scriptures is astonishing. You can not afford to neglect the most precious document of the world. There are times and seasons that can be found in every life when the Bible can be read.

One of the aims of the League is to develop Christian character. The first step in this growth is reading the Bible systematically. The absence of respect for things holy and sacred is caused by negligence. The man is unable to know God's will unless he seeks this information from God's Word. The surest and best way to get that knowledge is to read for himself from the Testaments.

There are many ways in which the Bible may be read helpfully. A simple, easy plan is to follow the readings suggested by the literature committee for each day in the year. There is a distinct outline in this system of Bible readings. The selections from the Scriptures follow the thoughts of the topics. If the outline of Scripture selections is followed, the individual will profit as well as the League.

All Bible study ought to be carried on with some direct purpose in mind. A definite goal is reached when a plan is followed in Bible reading. There are books prepared for individual or family worship that can be secured from any of the Church's publication houses. Most of these books have written out selections from both Testaments or suggestions of passages and prayers for each day of the year. These volumes are simple but very helpful for the busy man or woman of today. Begin at once to read a passage of Holy Scripture every day and offer a prayer unto God in thanksgiving for the privilege of reading the Bible in your own language when you desire to do so.



SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.

January 18, 1925.

THE LEAGUE'S PART IN THE CHURCH'S PROGRAM

Romans 12:3-13.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday—Acts 11:19-16.

Tuesday—Acts 13:1-5.

Wednesday—II Cor. 9:1-15.

Thursday—I Peter 4:7-11.

Friday—Hebrews 10:19-25.

Saturday—Hebrews 5:8; 6:3.

HINTS FOR LEADERS.

This is the time to emphasize parts of the constitution which speak of the League's

relation to the Church. This could be read from the local as well as the National constitution.

The Pastor or some member of the Church Council may be called in to discuss the plan of the church or congregation, distinguishing the parts in its activities. The speaker could dwell longer on the League's part in the Church's program.

Perhaps you have some who will make a large chart, showing the different organizations of the congregation and their activities. An explanation of such a chart will interest many.

Appropriate Hymns are, "I Love Thy Zion, Lord," "The Church's One Foundation," and the Luther League Hymn.

Stories concerning what other Leagues have done for the church will add an interesting feature to the meeting.

TOPIC.

There is usually found in every congregation several young men and women who are deeply consecrated. They enjoy the work of the church. Where this group of faithful ones is missing you do not find a League. Such a band of young people is responsible for the development of the young men and women of the congregation. These faithful few deserve a tribute of honor for their successes. It has been their efforts that have held the younger crowds interested in the affairs of the church. The League is growing many more consecrated young Christians but the harvest ought to be much larger.

The Church has a specific task to do. She needs all the help she can get. Each congregation needs the co-operation of all her organizations. The different groups of workers have different tasks to perform. Therefore each organization should have a program that is a part of the great plan of the Church and co-operating with the idea to fulfilling the specific task.

The Luther League has been assigned the work of informing, developing and leading the young men and women of the Church into a fuller realization of what Christianity means. This is a tremendous task. It is much more important than it first appears. A real responsibility rests upon the shoulders of the Luther League of America. The Church is looking to this organization to accomplish this part of her program. If the League fails in this task a part of the Church's work will be incomplete.

The League needs to realize that she has a definite program to fulfill. Membership in the organization means sharing some of the responsibility of accomplishing this task. The success of this undertaking depends upon the united and co-operative efforts of all the young people in the Church.

The future success of Christianity rests with the present members of the League and their companions in the community. Gaining the support of the uninterested at this time will make the task of the Church in the future much easier. One way in reaching the outsiders is to show them that there is a definite program to be carried out. This generation asks for something to do. Dividing up the work is the plan of the Church today. The more you have laboring in the Kingdom the sooner will the world become Christian.

The League all over this country should awaken to its task. When she does the Church will be enriched a thousandfold. The spirituality of the people of God will advance with strides and the success of the Church's task will be assured. A large part of this success depends upon the interest and willingness to serve, of every League as well as every member of the Luther League of America.



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.

January 25, 1925.

Matt. 28:18-20.

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHINA

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday—Psalm 16:1-6.

Tuesday—Psalm 46.

Wednesday—Psalm 47.

Thursday—Psalm 96.

Friday—Psalm 110.

Saturday—Psalm 135:15-18.

"The first Christian mission to the Chinese was that of the heroic Nestorians in the seventh century of which little but a traditional account remains. Roman Catholic missions record the names of many heroes, but on account of the hardness of the heart of the people and also on account of the lack of wisdom of the missionaries, no permanent missions were established. Before the treaty ports were opened in 1842, the English missionary Morrison visited the country secretly and began Protestant missions by translating the whole Bible into Chinese. Equal in devotion and diligence and with a peculiar interest for us was another missionary, Karl Frederick Gutzlaff, a Lutheran whose ardent appeal for China helped to quicken the missionary spirit in the American Lutheran Church and also inspired David Livingston to give his life to missions."

There have been some Lutheran societies doing missionary work in China with much success. The Basel Society in 1917 had a total Christian membership of 11,000 with 220 native missionaries in addition to home forces. The Berlin Society had 36 missionaries with 10,000 baptized Christians. It is from the Berlin Society that the United Lutheran Church has purchased recently

(Continued on page 27)



Intermediate Department



**"AND JESUS INCREASED IN WISDOM
AND IN STATURE, AND IN
FAVOR WITH GOD
AND MAN"**

THE INTERMEDIATE TOPICS FOR 1925

Jan. 4—Sunday After New Year. *What I Hope This Year Will Mean for Me.* Matt. 16:24-27; I Cor. 15:58.

Jan. 11—First Sunday After Epiphany. *What Made David a Great Man?* Ps. 40:1-8.

Jan. 18—Second Sunday After Epiphany. *What Habits Are Harmful? How Overcome Them?* I Tim. 6:9-12.

Jan. 25—Third Sunday After Epiphany. (Missionary—"Torch Bearers in China")

Chapter 1, *The Race of Hero Spirits.*

(Note—The missionary topics for the first half of the year are based on the Intermediate mission book, "Torch Bearers in China," which can be purchased for seventy-five cents, cloth; fifty cents, paper.)

Feb. 1—Fourth Sunday After Epiphany. *What is the Value of a Luther League?* Phil. 2:1-16.

Feb. 8—Fifth Sunday After Epiphany. *Lessons From the Lives of Great Americans.* Luke 22:24-27.

Feb. 15—Sexagesima Sunday. *What Should I Do for My Church?* Rom. 12:1-21.

Feb. 22—Quinquagesima Sunday. (Missionary—"Torch Bearers in China") Chapter 4, *The Trail on the Roof of the World.* Dr. Shelton.

March 1—First Sunday in Lent. (Lenten Topic.) *Facing Jerusalem—Announcement of the Sufferings.* Matt. 16:21, 20:17, 18; Luke 18:31-33.

March 8—Second Sunday in Lent. (Lenten Topic.) *Facing Jerusalem—Meeting the Opposition of Enemies.* Matt. 27:26-28; John 18:1-14; Luke 23:1-25.

March 15—Third Sunday in Lent. (Lenten Topic.) *Facing Jerusalem—The Failures of Friends.* Luke 22:24, 31-32, 54-62; Matt. 14:50; Luke 22:45, 1-6; John 18:10-11.

March 22—Fourth Sunday in Lent. (Lenten Topic.) *Facing Jerusalem—The Cross*

Endured. Luke 23:32-49; Matt. 27:29-54; Mark 15:22-39; John 19:16-37.

March 29—Fifth Sunday in Lent. (Missionary—"Torch Bearers in China")

Chapter 5—*Hu King Eng, Trail Breaker.*

April 5—Palm Sunday. *What Do I Mean When I Say, "Jesus, My Savior?"* John 3:16.

April 12—Easter Sunday. *Evidences of the Living Christ at Work Today.* Acts 1:1-8; John 14:12-14.

April 19—First Sunday After Easter. *What Do We Mean When We Say, "Our Father?"* Matt. 6:9, 24-34.

April 26—Second Sunday After Easter. (Missionary—"Torch Bearers in China") Chapter 6—*The Crimson Trail.* General Feng.

May 3—Third Sunday After Easter. *To What Extent Should Our Parents Decide Our Life Work?* I Sam. 1:26; Luke 2:49-52.

May 10—Fourth Sunday After Easter. *Where and How Should We Spend Our Sunday?* Ps. 122:1-9; Heb. 10:25.

May 17—Fifth Sunday After Easter. *How Can Our Society Make the Best Use of the Summer Months?* Luke 14:16-23.

May 24—Sixth Sunday After Easter. *How Apply the Golden Rule in School, in Work, in Play?* Matt. 7:12.

May 31—Whitsunday. (Missionary—"Torch Bearers in China") Chapter 7—*A Mule, a Map, and a Man!*

June 7—Trinity Sunday. *Why I Believe in God.* I John 4:7-12, 19; Rom. 1:20.

June 14—First Sunday After Trinity. *How Can We Improve Our Conversation?* Ps. 19:14; Eph. 4:29-32.

June 21—Second Sunday After Trinity. *Does Education Pay?* Prov. 4:1-13.

June 28—Third Sunday After Trinity. (Missionary—"Torch Bearers in China") Chapter 8—*The Torch Race.*

July 5—Fourth Sunday After Trinity. *What Makes a Nation Great?* Gen. 18:17-19.

July 12—Fifth Sunday After Trinity. *What Do I Know About the Women of the Bible?* Ruth 1:16, 17; John 11:28-30.

July 19—Sixth Sunday After Trinity. *What Are the Dangers of Jealousy?* Gen. 37:1-11.

July 26—Seventh Sunday After Trinity. (Missionary—"Land of All Nations.") *What Progress is Being Made by Negroes in America?* Acts 8:26-39. Chapter 1—*A Student of Two Books.* (George Carver.)

(Note—The missionary topics for the last half of the year are based on the Intermediate study book by Mrs. Seebach, "Land of All Nations," which can be purchased for seventy-five cents, cloth; fifty cents, paper.)

Aug. 2—Eighth Sunday After Trinity. *The Benefits of Knowing the Bible.* Psalm 19:7-11; II Tim. 3:16.

Aug. 9—Ninth Sunday After Trinity. *The Benefits of Wholesome Play.* (Outdoor meeting with the Seniors.) Mark 6:31; Luke 2:52.

Aug. 16—Tenth Sunday After Trinity. *What Does Nature Tell Us of God?* Ps. 8:1-9.

Aug. 23—Eleventh Sunday After Trinity. *My Greatest Help in Time of Temptation.* I Cor. 10:12, 13; Matt. 4:1-11.

Aug. 30—Twelfth Sunday After Trinity. (Missionary—"Land of All Nations.") *What is Our Responsibility to Foreigners in America?* Acts 10:34, 35; Heb. 12:1, 2. Chapter 6—*A Messenger of Good News.* (Peter Halenda.)

Sept. 6—Thirteenth Sunday After Trinity. *Prayer, the Greatest Power in the World.* Jas. 5:16-18; 1 John 5:14-15.

Sept. 13—Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity. *My Favorite Passage of Scripture and Why.* Ps. 119:97-105.

Sept. 20—Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity. *How Can Jesus Help Me in My School Life?* Phil. 4:4-9.

Sept. 27—Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity. (Missionary.) ("Land of All Nations.") *How Can We Serve Our Neighborhood?* Matt. 25:34-46. Chapter 2—*A Modern Columbus.* (Constantino Panunzio).

Oct. 4—Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity. *How Can Our Society Help Other Intermediates?* (Rally Day.) John 13:34-35; Rom. 15:1-2.

Oct. 11—Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity. *Is It Ever Right to Lie and Cheat in School?* Acts. 5:1-11.

Oct. 18—Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity. *How Can Intermediates Help to Enforce Law?* (Citizenship Day.) Rom. 13:1-8.

Oct. 25—Twentieth Sunday after Trinity. (Missionary.) ("Land of All Nations.") *How Can We Prove Our Christian Friendship for the Jews?* Rom. 10:1-14. Chapter 8—*A Shuttle of the Great Loom.*—(Edward Steiner.)

Nov. 1—Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity. *What Happened in 1525?* (Reformation.) (Luther's Marriage.) Gen. 2:18,

Nov. 8—Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity. *What Are the Principles of My Church?* 1 Cor. 13:1-13.

Nov. 15—Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity. *How and Why Should Intermediates Give to the Church?* Deut. 16:17; 2 Cor. 9:6-7.

Nov. 22—Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity. *Why Am I Thankful?* (Thanksgiving Meeting.) Ps. 100:1-6.

Nov. 29—First Sunday in Advent. (Missionary.) ("Land of All Nations.") *The Chinese in America.* Chapter 3—*The Hand of a Helper.*—(Loo Lin.)

Dec. 6—Second Sunday in Advent. *What's the Good of Going to Church?* Heb. 10:23-25; Ps. 96:1-9.

Dec. 13—Third Sunday in Advent. *Christmas for Self or Others?* Acts. 20:32-35.

Dec. 20—Fourth Sunday in Advent. *Why Did Jesus Come into the World?* Luke 1:31-33; John 10:7-11.

Dec. 27—Sunday after Christmas. (Missionary.) ("Land of All Nations.") *The Near East.* Chapter 5—*A Daughter of Lebanon.*—(Layyah Barakat.)

"SIXTEEN-POINT PROGRAM."

In order that all the Intermediate Leagues may work together toward a common goal and have a uniform program, the Intermediate Committee at its recent meeting adopted the following Standard of Efficiency for Intermediate Leagues:

1. The use of at least 35 of the Intermediate Luther League Topics during the year.
2. In the Devotional Department of the Merit System, at least two thirds of the active members at work to gain the required points in that department.
3. In the Educational Department, at least two-thirds of the members reporting on the required points.
4. In the Physical Department, at least two-thirds of the members at work to gain the required points.
5. In the Social Department at least two-thirds of the members at work to gain the required points.
6. A net increase of ten per cent. during the year of members in good standing.
7. A delegate to the District or State convention.
8. One joint meeting with either the Senior or District League, at which time the causes of the ministry and the diaconate are presented.
9. Daily Bible Readings by all the members.
10. Attendance of two-thirds of the members at at least 80 per cent. of the main Church services.
11. Twenty-five per cent. of the members reading all the books of the Intermediate

Reading Course, and receiving the certificate from the Luther League headquarters.

12. Registration with the Intermediate Department of the Luther League of America.

13. Attendance of at least two-thirds of the members at at least 80 per cent of the Sunday School sessions.

14. An intermediate Conference or rally held once a year with the neighboring Intermediate Leagues.

15. An offering for (1) inner, (2) home and (3) foreign missions during the year.

16. A Promotion Service into the Senior League (supplied by the office), held at a suitable time every year.

A League which attains ten of the above points will be known as a Standard Intermediate League; one that secured 12 points, a Star League; 14 points, an Honor League; and 15 points, a Banner Intermediate League.

To introduce this plan start immediately the first of January to have the members work for the points.

At the convention of the Luther League of America in Milwaukee in July an Honor Roll of all *Registered* Intermediate Leagues will be put up, and after the name of each will be affixed a large star to indicate the rank which each have attained; *black* for those reporting less than ten points by the end of June, and *red, white, blue* and *gold* respectively for those reporting 10, 12, 14 and 15 points accomplished.

Therefore start to work at once, keeping a record of the attainment which your League makes of the several points, reporting before June 30 to this office, and receiving proper recognition at our Milwaukee convention.

THE 1925 READING COURSE.

The Reading Course for 1925 has been selected as follows:

An Eagle of the Wilderness.—Seebach.

Little Journeys in His Kingdom.—Wendall.

Land of All Nations.—Seebach.

Torchbearers in China.—Matthews.

The Master.—Johnston.

What Shall I Do With My Life?—Donnelly.

"An Eagle of the Wilderness," is the story of our pioneer Home Missionary, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, by our own Lutheran writer, Mrs. Margaret Seebach.

"Little Journeys in His Kingdom," is an inspirational book which can well be used in a study class.

"Land of All Nations," is a book of short biographies of some famous immigrants and their contribution to the progress of America.

"Torchbearers in China," is a fascinating series of stories on China.

"The Master," is a book containing in story form ten outstanding incidents in the life of Jesus, told in an attractive way.

"What Shall I Do With My Life?" is, as its name indicates, a book on Life Service, presenting in a serious way this question for consideration by the Intermediates.

A Book Contest, similar to the one inaugurated this year, is being arranged for 1925, and will be announced in the January issue of the REVIEW.

INTERMEDIATE LITERATURE.

At the recent Intermediate Committee meeting the printing of some intermediate literature was authorized. A Packet of Intermediate Helps is now available, containing the following leaflets and pamphlets:

The Intermediate Merit System and How To Use It.

"Called To His Service" (an Intermediate Pageant.)

"Girls! What Is Your Hobby?" and "Homecraft," for girls.

Promotion Service from the Intermediate to the Senior League.

Fifty-Seven Varieties of Meetings for Intermediates.

How to Organize an Intermediate League.

The Packet sells for 40 cents. Intermediate superintendents will be glad to avail themselves of these new helps.

In addition to our Registration Certificates, Reading Course Certificates and Diplomas, or Certificates of Promotion from the Intermediate League are also now available.

NEWS.

The Reading Course Contest.—In July a Reading Contest was announced, and a prize offered for the best essay submitted by an Intermediate on one of the books of the Intermediate Reading Course. We are glad at this time to announce the winner. It is Miss Emma Schneider, of Yonkers, N. Y., whose well-prepared essay on "Martin of Mansfeld," was received and considered with much interest in this office. She has been sent her choice of the books of the Reading Course. We congratulate Miss Schneider, not alone on having won the prize, nor solely for her good essay, but on the help and information which she herself received in the preparation of the same.

Miss Schneider has won the 1924 Contest. Who will be our prize-winner in 1925? We trust there will be keen competition and that many more Intermediates will submit essays. The Course is elsewhere announced; start to work immediately.

Philadelphia.—An Intermediate Conference for leaders was held in Apostles Church on October 8, when the Merit System, the Topics, and work among the Intermediates was discussed.

Two sessions of the series of conferences

being held in St. Paul's Church for Junior and Intermediate workers of the District were devoted to Intermediate work.

Lititz.—The Intermediate League held a public meeting on Sunday, October 19.

York District.—An Intermediate Conference was conducted in connection with the District convention in Hanover on November 6.

Brooklyn and Long Island District.—At their convention in Christ Church on November 8 heard an address by Sister Pearle Lyerly on "The Intermediate League and Its Sixteen-Point Program."

On November 22 an Intermediate Rally for the Intermediates of the District was held.

Albany and Susquehanna District.—Sister Pearle spoke on Intermediate work at the convention of this District.

Boyetown, Pa.—The Intermediate League has purchased the Intermediate Reading Course for circulation among its members.

REGISTERED INTERMEDIATE LEAGUES—

WATCH US GROW!

19. St. Andrew's, Hickory, N. C.
20. Cotta Club, St. Luke's, Brooklyn, N. Y.
21. Atonement, Saugerties, N. Y.
22. Trinity, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.
23. St. Paul's, Lititz, Pa.
24. St. John's, Joliet, Ill.
25. St. Paul's, Philadelphia, Pa.
26. Church of the Redeemer, Milwaukee, Wis.
27. St. John's, Salisbury, N. C.

We have 27 registered Leagues. There are to the knowledge of the Intermediate Secretary about 50 Intermediate Leagues in active working order. The others should register at once.

New York has set as its goal for this year 50 new Junior and Intermediate Leagues. Note the News Items above, and see that they are going after them "strong." Shall we set the mark at 100 Intermediate Leagues in the Luther League of America by the time of the Milwaukee convention—100 *Registered Leagues*? Let us set at work at once and go to Milwaukee with this goal realized. We can do it, if we will! *We can do it and we will!*



THE TOPICS.

January 4, 1925.

WHAT I HOPE THIS YEAR WILL MEAN TO ME

Matt. 16:24-27; 1 Cor. 15:58.

Programs and Suggestions for the Meeting PROGRAM.

Opening Hymn.—"Joy to the World, the Lord Is Come" (34 Common Service Book).

Scripture Reading.—A New Year Psalm. Psalm 1—A Guide Post for the New Year. (To be recited from memory or read responsively.)

Sentence Prayers.—(By the Intermediates.) For God's blessing during the New Year for the growth in spiritual grace of each Intermediate; for the growth of the society during the year.

Bible Stories.—The Marks of a Christian Life. Matt. 16:24-27; 1 Cor. 15:58.

Daily Bible Readings.—Questions on same.

Musical Number.—"As With Gladness Men of Old," sung as a quartet by 4 Intermediates. (38, Common Service Book.)

The Topic.—Discussion of topic.

Musical Number.—Violin or piano solo.

New Year Thoughts.—What This Year Should Mean in the Intermediate League. *Closing Prayer.*

THE BIBLE STORIES.

(To be given by two Intermediates.)

(1) (Intermediate reads Matt. 16:24-27.)

Our Lord was talking to His disciples. In answer to His question, "Whom say ye that I am?" came that bold, straight from the shoulder statement of Peter's, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God."

When we come to Confirmation and in the presence of the congregation announce our intention of following Jesus, we also confess Him, as did Peter. It also means leaving behind us the things of the world; but this does not mean a gloomy, hard life, but one filled with joy and happiness in His service.

A Christian will forget the things of this world, "movies" and too many parties and fine dresses, and shows, will all be forgotten, and he will spend himself in the things of the Kingdom, in serving in the Church, in living a happy, Christian life day by day, and bringing others to Christ and the Church.

Earth's riches fade; if we have the whole world and have not Christ, we are poor indeed. If we have Christ and nothing else, we are rich, for we have Life Everlasting and eternal happiness.

Let us confess Him, let us serve Him in the Church, let us take Christ along with us throughout the New Year, and leave behind the vain, useless things of this world which do not count.

(2) (Intermediate reads 1 Cor. 15:58.)

This is the closing verse in the letter which the Apostle Paul wrote the new church at Corinth which he had lately established. In a short time disputes arose, several factions tried to secure control of things, and Paul's letter is a plea for harmony.

There is a lesson here which we can take along with us through the New Year in our

own Christian life and in the Intermediate League. We can each one of us be faithful in our attendance at Church, in our daily prayer life, and in the reading of our Bible.

Then there is much work to be done in the church. The Intermediate League has many chances for service. Is there need for ushers for Sunday evening service? Do they need volunteers in the choir? Are helpers needed in the Primary Department? What part can the Intermediates take in a missionary offering? Can a public entertainment be given? Can some missionary work be done? In all of these we can do our part heartily.

When questions arise in the League, we can all work together harmoniously, having as our sole aim doing His work. Petty squabbles and bickerings have spoiled many an Intermediate League. There is no place for them there.

Let this year mean to us more loyalty to Him, more work for Him.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

(To be given by the Intermediates.)

Monday.—New Year Faith.—Psalm 31:1-5, 23, 24.
Tuesday.—New Year Guidance.—Psalm 23:1-6.
Wednesday.—New Year Service.—2 Cor. 12:1-15.
Thursday.—New Year Trust.—Psalm 37:1-5.
Friday.—New Year Goal.—Phil. 3:12-14.
Saturday.—New Year Standard.—2 Peter 1:1-8.

QUESTIONS ON THE DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

(To be answered by 7 Intermediates in the meeting.)

1. How will trust in God strengthen us for better living?

2. How does the Shepherd Psalm guide us?

3. How did Paul serve under difficulties? Should difficulties hinder us?

4. Should evil-doers discourage us in doing our best?

5. How is Christian life like a race? What is the prize?

6. What qualities of a Christian does Peter list?

7. How will these things help to make this a better year for us?

NEW YEAR THOUGHTS.

(To be given by the Intermediates.)

1. We are standing at an open door. New opportunities, new adventures, new undertakings, lie beyond. What the year will mean for us depends on us; whether we make the most of things, or pass them by.

2. The old Greeks believed in a two-headed god, whom they called Janus. He, they thought, could look backward and see all that had gone by, He could look forward also and foresee all that was to take place. Hence they named after him the first month of the year—January. New Year Day is a place where we stop, look back over the past year and see all its mistakes and its triumphs. We look forward also and anticipate the year to come. The past Year

becomes the stepping stone to the new, for we build upon it.

3. We can only live one day at a time in this New Year. What the whole year will mean to us at its close depends exactly on what we make each one of its three hundred and sixty-five days mean.

4. Folks 'round about you will judge you by what you do. There are four Gospels in our Bible; there is also another—

"You are writing a Gospel, a chapter each day,

By deeds that you do, by words that you say;

Men read what you write, whether faithless or true—

Say! What is the Gospel according to you?"

What the year will mean depends on what you "write" each day on the pages of your life.

WHAT THIS YEAR SHOULD MEAN IN THE INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE.

(To be presented by an Intermediate and Discussed by the Superintendent.)

1. 1925 should mean a "Bigger and Better" Intermediate League. It should mean more loyalty on the part of each Intermediate, more faithfulness in attending and taking part in the meetings.

2. It should mean more active service. More missionary work, more help in the work of our own Church, more study in and out of the League on the part of each Intermediate. It should mean more use of the REVIEW and the Intermediate Reading Course.

3. It should mean more Intermediates at work on the Merit System, each Intermediate striving to achieve the four-fold life which it develops and rising from rank to rank.

4. It should mean the attaining of our League of the items in the "16-Point Program" for Intermediate Leagues. (This program is given elsewhere and explained in this Department.)

SUGGESTIONS.

Make this a "New Year Meeting."

Assign all the parts of the Topic a week or two weeks previous to the meeting.

Meet with the Intermediate who is to lead the meeting in advance, and go over the program.

Arrange for several musical numbers as suggested.

Print "New Year" and the topic of the meeting in large letters on the blackboard. If you have no blackboard use a large sheet of wrapping paper.

The Daily Bible Readings, Questions on same, and New Year Thoughts may be distributed among the Intermediates, to be used at the time of discussion.

Plan during the discussion to start at once to work on the "16-Point Program." Explain this item by item to the Intermediates, note the announcement concerning our Milwaukee convention and have the Intermediates enter into this enthusiastically.

Have an Intermediate print this on a large sheet of paper and put on the wall of your room.

Suggest that each Intermediate start a Diary. Have them use large composition books, and have them write in each day one good thing accomplished. Some may adopt this as their "Hobby," and receive credit for this in the Educational Department of the Merit System. It is a required item.

THE TOPIC.

(By Sister Pearle Lyerly.)

The New Year.—A Happy New Year to each and to all we say in greeting. What is this New Year? Why has it been entrusted to us? The Father of Time has placed into our hands a Book of 365 pages. On each page there must be written the successes and failures, the joys and sorrows, and every act of service to God and man. As we turn the pages day after day, it gives us delight to look upon the clean unspotted surface. When we are asked to review these with the past happenings recorded we shudder and try to get away from the black spots—yes, these spots were placed there because of our great mistakes. Let us resolve to make the Book of 1925 the cleanest one in our volume. Let us pause in prayerful meditation on the days that are gone, that we may write to better purpose on the pages of the days that are to come. Let us face the New Year with a *Definite Plan*.

Christ's Command for Service.—We, as Intermediate Leaguers, have been called to become workers in the Church. Let us begin the New Year by asking this question—What is necessary in order that we may become true followers of Christ? In St. Matthew 16:24-27 we find three things, namely, *Deny Self, Take Up Cross and Follow Christ*.

Deny Self.—We need to think of the missionaries as they sail from the home land to the heathen on yonder shores in order to get some idea of the meaning of "Deny Self." Or, let us look around and see the faithful young people who are always ready to deny self in order that the Church of Christ may carry on its work. The pleasures sacrificed are not to be compared with the joys that come to those who live and work in Christ.

Take Up Cross.—This is a pleasure, not a burden; an opportunity, not a closed door, and a strength giving power—"Lo, I am with you always," "My strength is sufficient for thee," said Christ. With these

promises may we strive to carry it to all the waiting world. On one page record your decisions for definite service. During last year two Intermediates recorded their decisions and today they are in College preparing to *carry the cross*, one to the foreign field, the other to the Church at home, if God is willing.

Follow Christ.—God gave His best to us—His only begotten Son—Christ gave His best to us—Himself. Let us give through the Church and Intermediate League the best we have—Self. What shall this New Year mean to me? *Service for Christ's Sake.*

"Tired, Well what of that?

Didst fancy life was spent on beds of ease,

Fluttering the rose leaves scattered by the breeze?

Come! rouse thee, work while it is called today,

Face to the front along the King's Highway."



January 11, 1925.

WHAT MADE DAVID A GREAT MAN?

Psalms 40:1-8.

Programs and Suggestions for the Meeting
THE PROGRAM.

Psalms 40.—Read in concert.

Opening Hymn.—"I Lay My Sins On Jesus" (338, Common Service Book). (Any hymn on Faith may be selected.)

Daily Bible Readings.—Given by 6 Intermediates.

Bible Drill.—Three papers.—David, the Shepherd Boy; David, the Psalmist; David, the King.

The Topic.—By 5 Intermediates.

Discussion of Topic.

Special Number.—Musical number or dramatization of story of David.

Sentence Prayers.—By Intermediates.—For the faith of David, for his regard for God's laws, for his gratitude.

Lord's Prayer.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday.—David's Ancestry.—Ruth 4:22.

Tuesday.—His Friendship With Jonathan.—1 Sam. 18:1; 19:2, 20; 23:16.

Wednesday.—Spares Saul's Life.—1 Sam. 24:4; 26:5.

Thursday.—Becomes King of Israel.—2 Sam. 5:3; 1 Chron. 11.

Friday.—His Psalms of Thanksgiving.—2 Sam. 22; 1 Chron. 16:7.

Saturday.—Appoints Solomon His Successor.—1 Kings 1; Psalm 72.

BIBLE DRILL.

During the series of Bible Topics, the Intermediates will enjoy some Bible Drills.

At this meeting, which deals with one of the persons of the Bible, a Drill on the men and women of the Bible will be interesting.

Divide the League on two sides. Appoint a captain for each side, and choose. To start the drill begin with A. Let each

side alternately name a person in the Bible, beginning with A, until no more can be named. The one unable to name a person is seated. Then start with B, etc. The side with the largest number remaining after a period of ten minutes is the winner.

PAPERS.

Have three Intermediates prepare papers on the life of David following out some of the thoughts here given:

David, the Shepherd Boy.—Youngest son of Jesse, born in Bethlehem, B.C. 1085. Ancestor of Jesus. Anointed by Saul while keeping the sheep (1 Sam. 16:11-13). Conflict with lion (1 Sam. 17:34-35).

David, the King.—Appointed King (2 Sam. 2:1-5, 5; 1 Chron. 12:39). Return of ark to Jerusalem. Conquering of enemies—Philistines, Moabites, Edomites, Ammonites. Inauguration of Solomon (1 Kings 1:1-53).

David, the Psalmist.—The Shepherd Psalm (Ps. 23). Psalm of Thanksgiving (Ps. 18, 103, 105).

SPECIAL NUMBER.

If some of the Intermediates meet the week previous, a dramatization of the Story of David and Goliath can be worked out. In the book "Dramatization of Bible Stories"—Miller, an excellent presentation is given. (This book can be secured from the United Lutheran Publication House, 1228 Spruce St., Philadelphia, for \$1.25.)

THE TOPIC.

WHAT MADE DAVID GREAT.

Psalm 40:1-8.

(By Rev. Calvin P. Swank.)

Many men are considered great because of their service to their country. David was great in that while he was great in his country's service, he was great in the service of his God. We oftentimes hail men as great with no thought of their religious life, such as our statesmen and presidents. When we look very carefully at the lives of these great men we find that most of them have a sincere Christian faith and conduct, which forms the basis and the background for their greatness. A leader could hardly have the confidence of people if he did not possess great Christian faith and cherish the ideals of our Lord. David was great as a statesman and king but his chief greatness and the thing which has made him of greatest influence was his faith in God whom he sincerely trusted and served.

We can never hope to be truly great in service to our community or country unless we too are firm in Christian faith and principles. There was something peculiar about David's faith. As many other Old Testament men, he did not believe in Christ quite as we do because he did not have the

benefit of Christ's life and service, but God had informed David through His Spirit of the coming of Christ whom the Jews spoke of as the Messiah. David therefore believed in God, understanding that His Son would some time come to benefit and save mankind. It was this peculiar faith in God which David cherished. We see this in many of the psalms which he wrote. These psalms are spoken of as the Messianic Psalms because they speak of the coming Messiah.

There are three great elements in David's greatness. The first of these was his strong faith in God. He believed also that God would prosper him in all undertakings that were pleasing to Him. Many times he was in great danger because he did his Lord's will, but he believed God would prosper both the doing of His will and His servant who did it. All great leaders are made amid danger and sacrifice. No person without great faith is equal to such achievements. To believe in our Lord and our undertakings which are in accordance with His will, are marks of greatness. Saul, David's King, was anointed by one of God's Prophets by the name of Samuel. Saul then was the head of the State and the Religion. Saul became jealous of David and very angry and attempted to slay him. Several times while Saul was seeking his life, David could have killed him, but he refused to harm Saul because he was God's choice, and had been anointed King by one of God's Prophets. This showed David's devotion to his Lord and his sacred regard for the Lord's anointed. It is always a mark of greatness for a person to reverence and respect God's instructions and His servants, such as His Ministers. People who have but little respect for God's laws and his ministers, usually have but little respect for themselves. How could a person ever hope to be respected by others and looked to as great when he has but little respect for God and himself.

A third element in David's greatness was his profound gratitude to God. It was God who "heard his cry"; who "brought him out of the horrible pit"; who "put a new song in his mouth." He could further say that it was God who did for him "many wonderful words." In concluding the thoughtful meditation of this psalm he says, "I am poor and needy, yet the Lord thinketh upon me." At all times he felt very dependent upon the Lord and showed a profound gratitude for everything God did for him. This spirit of gratitude lies at the bottom of greatness. We should always have a keen sense of appreciation for all that other people do for us and especially for the rich and great goodness which God gives us.

We may never be as great as David was

or as many men whom we consider great today, but we can all have the elements of greatness in that we can cherish a great faith in God, have a high regard for God's laws and his service and show great gratitude. If we practise these things, though we may not be considered great by men, we shall be considered great by our Heavenly Father.



January 18, 1925.

WHAT HABITS ARE HARMFUL? HOW OVERCOME THEM?

I Tim. 6:9-12.

Program and Suggestions for the Meeting PROGRAM.

Roll Call.—(Each Intermediate responds with Bible Verse on prayer, truthfulness, faithfulness, meekness, faith, or other good habit.) (Announce this the week previous, asking each Intermediate to be prepared with verse.)

Bible Story.—Some Good Habits.—1 Tim. 6:9-12.

Blackboard Drill.—H-A-B-I-T.

Daily Bible Readings.—And Questions on same.

The Topic.—By 6 intermediates. How are habits formed? Some physical habits. Some mental habits. Some social habits. Some spiritual habits. How overcome harmful habits.

Discussion of Topic.—Four Papers by 4 Intermediates. What good habits are encouraged in the Devotional Department of the Merit System? In the Educational? The Physical? The Social? (A good chance to review the Merit System. The Superintendent should add to this part of program.)

Debate.—Resolved: That it is easier to form harmful habits than good ones.

Sentence Prayers.—By Intermediates, that we may be kept from harmful habits, that we may be helped in the forming of good habits.

Hymn.—"Take My Life and Let It Be" (382, Common Service Book.)

Lord's Prayer.

BIBLE STORY.

(To be given by Intermediates.)

(Intermediate reads: 1 Tim. 6:9-12.)

These verses which speak of many good qualities and habits, and also of some harmful ones were written to Timothy, the disciple, by the Apostle Paul.

Not only these verses, but the whole story of Timothy give us many helpful hints concerning the right sort of habits.

Timothy as a child was under the care of his mother Eunice and his grandmother Lois. They obeyed the old Jewish admonition to "train up a child in the way he

should go." "From a child" he learned to "know the Holy Scriptures" daily, which afterward were able to make him wise unto salvation. As a young boy a visit from Paul to his village left a profound impression upon Timothy. He developed a great zeal and devotion to the cause of Christ. It was not strange that Paul on his second visit, should therefore select him to aid in the missionary work which he (Paul) was doing. Thereafter Timothy was his constant companion, became noted for his fervor and earnestness and his teaching ability. He finally died a martyr death.

BLACKBOARD DRILL.

(To be given by Intermediate.)

Habit is a strange thing. It is easily formed and hard to overcome, if it happens to be a bad habit.

Let us look at the word Habit for a moment (print H A B I T on blackboard). It is made up of five letters.

Suppose we have formed a habit—it may be laziness, shirking, untruthfulness—any bad habit which we should not have and which we should overcome—and suppose we wanted to break it, and made an honest effort to do so. Suppose we tried to break ourselves of this habit by not indulging in it every time we were tempted to do so—for example, but trying at times not being lazy, etc. Suppose we got rid of a part at least of this bad habit (erases the H in "Habit" on the board). Yet if we did not succeed in curing ourselves entirely of it, it would still be there, would it not, there would still be some of it left—there would still be A B I T left!

Suppose we tried still harder, and succeeded in still oftener resisting the temptation and oftener doing the right thing—take away still more of the habit—(erases A) and yet we still have a B I T left.

The oftener we try to rid ourselves of the temptation the more of it we will rid ourselves of (erases B) and yet, until we get rid of the habit entirely I T is still there.

The trouble generally is with us—we do not try hard enough, or get weary in trying. The difficulty is often that I am not willing to try. Take I away (erases I) and we have a chance to get entirely rid of the habit.

This can only be done in one way. We have but one letter of the word Habit left, that is T. Change this ever so little (suits action to word, on blackboard) just by bringing down the top of the letter and we have the only solution. We have a cross, and only by coming to the Cross of Jesus, by prayer and seeking His guidance can we finally lose the old Habit, and find in its place those traits of Christian life which keep us near Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

(To be given by 6 Intermediates.)

Some Good Habits.

Monday.—The Fruits of the Spirit.—Gal. 5:22-23.
 Tuesday.—Meekness.—Matt. 5:5.
 Wednesday.—Faith.—1 Cor. 16:13; 2 Cor. 13:5.
 Thursday.—Peace.—Rom. 12:18, 19, 20; 14:19.
 Friday.—Longsuffering.—Eph. 4:1, 2.
 Saturday.—Joy.—1 Peter 4:13.

QUESTIONS ON THE DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

(To be answered in the meeting.)

1. How can Intermediates obtain these qualities named by Paul?
2. How was Christ an example of meekness?
3. How can our faith be cultivated?
4. How can a peaceful spirit in the League be encouraged?
5. What reward has long-suffering?
6. Why is joy a part of a Christian's life?

THE TOPIC.

(By the Rev. C. P. Harry.)

Habits are formed by repetition. Habits are broken by interruption.

Some habits are formed unconsciously; later we discover that they are bad or good.

We can also deliberately form good habits and break bad ones.

The rule for forming Christian habits and breaking bad ones is—Watch and Pray. Take the matter to Christ; ask His help, depend on Him. Break a bad habit clean off. Never repeat in any form the acts or thoughts which lead to it.

To form a good habit, get it clearly in mind and be sure you want that habit. Then plan carefully to take advantage of every opportunity to repeat the acts and thoughts which lead to it.

In this topic a few of the most common, harmful habits at our age will be considered. We think of our life often on a four-fold plan and so we will consider these harmful habits. There are four physical habits quite common among young people of our age, which we need to watch and about which we need to pray. They are:

The habit of over-eating.

Laziness—not taking enough vigorous exercise.

Smoking.

Impurity.

I.—It is very easy to eat too much. A good rule is to never eat anything but good wholesome food at regular meal hours, and particularly to avoid much confections or rich food.

For laziness the rule is to do everything vigorously and be sure to take a couple of hours' exercise every day in games if possible, if not, in the gym or hiking.

Little needs to be said about smoking as its evil effects are generally known. The rule is don't buy tobacco or accept it when it is offered to you.

The same may be said of impurity.

Watchfulness and prayer against the slightest improprieties will conquer this habit.

II.—There are several bad mental habits into which we are likely to fall. One of these is exaggeration. Young men and young women of our age are likely to overstate everything. Just observe the adjectives that we use. Nearly everything is terrible, grand, awful, and the like. The rule is: Be exact in what you say and think.

Another bad habit is drawing hasty conclusions and thinking we know it all. We learn so much in these days that is new to us that we think it must be new to everybody else and so we get the impression that we know a great deal and that the things we think are more important than those of other people. It is interesting to know that our fathers and mothers thought the same way when they were our age and drew some of the same conclusions that we have drawn and had to revise them later. The rule is: Don't be big-headed about anything.

Another habit some of us fall into, especially girls, is the habit of day-dreaming and living in an imaginary universe. This sometimes leads us to think of ourselves as better than we are and it often leads us to much discouragement because our pretty dreams are all the time broken by what appears to us to be less beautiful reality. The rule is: Stick to the facts of life.

III.—There are some harmful social habits we are likely to form at this time. One of these is flirting. Now, we ought to be just as friendly as we can with everybody but friendship is such a beautiful and serious thing that we ought not to spoil our chances for real friendship by lightly flirting. The rule is: Be friendly but not frivolous.

Another bad social habit is a tendency to revolt against everything. Possibly this is connected with our tendency of knowing it all but a good many of us think that everything in society ought to be changed; the government is no good; the Church is no good; social conventions are all hypocrisy; everything ought to be cleared out and started over and we are the ones to do it. Now, there is no doubt that there is much that ought to be changed in social life but knocking is a very bad habit for a fellow or a girl to get. The rule is: Don't knock.

IV.—Bad spiritual habits. It becomes pretty easy for many to neglect their prayers and Bible study. Our father and mother do not see to it that we do this any more and we are on our own responsibility. The same thing might be said of Sunday school and Church attendance. The rule is: Pray and study the Bible every day and be regular at Church and Sunday school.

Another bad spiritual habit into which we are likely to fall is irreverence. It gives

us a fine sense of superiority to scoff at things and to use profane language but it is a very false sense of superiority. All really fine big persons are reverent and the use of profane language is not the mark of bigness but of littleness and weakness. The rule is: Speak and think with respect and reverence.

All through—remember the first rule—Watch and Pray. As we keep on praying and depending on Jesus and as we watch our steps in these and other habits which we form, we may be sure that He will help us in the right way, and that in this time our habit formation is so important, we may have the right habits which shall lead to good character and glorify God.

January 25, 1925.

"TORCHBEARERS IN CHINA"

Chapter I

"THE RACE OF HERO SPIRITS" (Missionary)

(By Miss Laura Wade Rice.)

TO INTERMEDIATE SUPERINTENDENTS.

DEAR CO-WORKERS:

If your boys and girls are to get anything out of their monthly missionary meetings they must put something of themselves into them. Purchase three copies of "Torchbearers in China" (price 50 cents, paper). Keep one for yourself, cut pages from the others for assignments. Have map inside cover enlarged by a member—you can buy one but to make it is better for the maker. Keep your eyes open for books, magazine articles or newspaper items. Have Intermediates do the same. Have a Sacrifice Box for China, open and send contents as per *The Foreign Missionary*, first page November issue. Watch this issue of our Foreign Board, and also *Lutheran Woman's Work*, for items and helps. Give assignments a month in advance, help with them if necessary.

January assignments not in "Torchbearers" stories:

- A—Map, locating our new missions.
- B—Pictures from *The Foreign Missionary* of same.
- C—Actual and relative size of China.
- D—Population (for these two see article following). Be sure to use any hymn suggested.

Yours in the work "China for Christ,"
LAURA WADE RICE.

CHINA.

China is a great land, comprised of eighteen provinces and enormous dependencies, Tibet, Mongolia and Manchuria. One province, Szechwan, is a tableland as large as France, while the smallest, CheKiang, is larger than Ireland. Her rivers rival even

the Mississippi; the Yangtze-kiang is navigable for a thousand miles.

Her people outnumber all Western Europe, Africa and America combined. If they were to hold hands they would stretch far beyond the moon. Count the letters in your Bibles, from Genesis to Revelations, and multiply them by eighty and you could only then represent the people of that empire hoary with age. Over thirty thousand pass each day beyond the reach of the Gospel. Start your missionary tomorrow and before he reaches China over a million now living will be gone into eternity.

THE TOPIC.

Sing two missionary hymns.

Superintendent.—Our Bible reading today contains the one reference in the whole Book to China. Her ancient name was Sinim. Isaiah gives us a fragment of a wonderful conversation between God the Father and the Messiah, His Son, Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus says that God called Him as a tiny baby to be a Messenger to the Jews—and also to the whole world. Read Is. 49:6-12, "And these from China." And in the next verse, "He gives a message of comfort to His people, the Jews"; read verse 13. Then, these scattered, afflicted Jews say (verse 14) and the answer comes, "Can a mother forget her baby? Yea, she may forget, yet will I not forget thee, O Israel." Read verses 16, 18. Just lately a little band of Jews have been found in China. God has not forgotten them—nor has He forgotten the Chinese, or us.

Leader.—We are living in a world that is very much alive, something is always happening somewhere! Just now it is in China. No one knows what changes tomorrow's paper will tell us have taken place among the people who used to be known as "the changeless Chinese." Then as Lutherans a change has come over us as regards China. We used to say: "Why!!! Don't we have any mission work in China?" Then, dropping the exclamation points we ask: "Why don't we have any mission work in China?" But four days ago we began to have it—for our United Lutheran Church in America has bought from the Berlin Missionary Society this mission which it dearly loves, but which since the war it can no longer support. The Berlin Society has another mission in South China and one in Africa, and what we pay for this will help it keep these two other missions going with what they are able to raise themselves till better times come to the Lutherans of Germany.

This mission is in the Province of Shantung which borders on the Yellow Sea, and it has three stations, one at Tsingtao, one at Kiaochow and the third at Taimd. There

are church buildings, schools and houses for missionaries. For these we will pay. There are good missionaries, too, who are glad to remain with their dear Chinese Christians—we will pay their salaries and from now on they will be our missionaries, for whom we pray and give and who will be our Torchbearers in China.

Show map—assignment A and pictures from *The Foreign Missionary*, Assignment B.

God put it into the minds of the people who plan our mission studies several years ago to choose China for just now when He knew we would all be specially interested in China and when books, papers and magazines would help us learn about it. China is a *big* country. (Tell of it.)

Assignment C—actual and relative size.

D—Population.

In the times of our Civil War, Hudson Taylor, one of China's Torchbearers, wrote these words:

"A million a month in China
Are dying without God."

Very likely each month since, the same number of souls have gone out into the darkness without God. Stop—think of it! No one to say, "Lo, I am with you always."—when the eyes grew dim. No rod or staff to comfort in the valley of the shadow of death. No word of "the Father's House"—or the "Many mansions."

Boy—girl, do you care? Will your life change this? Will you give gifts of prayer, money, yourself? In a wonderful book—"Torchbearers in China"—are stories of those who bore the Bible, the torch whose flame is Jesus Christ, into China. The first chapter is *The Race of Hero Spirits*.

E—Tell prologue—The Brigands and the boys.—pp. 1-6.

F—Tell story of Aidan.—Chapter 1, pp. 7-10.

G—Tell stories of Xavier and Valignani.—pp. 10-12.

H—Leader tells stories of Morison and others.—pp. 13-20.

I—Tell of women heroines.—pp. 21-25.

Close with 4th verse of '83, in Common Service Book, as follows:

"A noble army—men and boys,

The matron and the maid,

Around the Saviour's throne rejoice

In robes of light arrayed.

They climbed the steep ascent of heaven
Through peril, toil and pain!

O God! to us may grace be given

To follow in their train!"

HELLENIZATION

"The Romans opened Forums and spread culture."

"Yeah, and the Greeks opened restaurants and spread indigestion."—*Judge*.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S LETTER

(Continued from page 10)

spring the co-ordination plan, hereinbefore mentioned, will be ready for operation.

Next month we shall have something to write concerning the 1925 Reading Courses.

Note the cover page design and co-operate with the young people of all communions on December seventh in observing "Golden Rule Sunday." Matt. 25:45.

May the joys of the coming Christmas season dwell richly in your hearts.

League-ally yours,

HARRY HODGES.

LUTHER LEAGUE TOPICS

(Continued from page 16)

the Shantung Mission for \$185,500, of which amount \$20,000 will be paid in 1925.

The Danish, Norwegian and Swedish Lutherans in Europe and America have done splendid work.

All Lutheran missions in Central China are working in close co-operation, especially along educational lines. A theological seminary has been established near Hankow.

"It will appear in looking at the map of China and noting the important position that the Lutheran Church holds geographically that God has meant her to be a dominating force in new China. He has entrusted to her the very heart of China. The Lutheran Church occupies in the central provinces territory equal to the whole of New England plus New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and half of Maryland. In this territory she is ministering to a population of fifty million souls."

A hundred years ago Robert Morrison baptized his first convert. Today there are in China over 375,000 communicant members of the Protestant Church and over 6,000 missionaries are working. About ten per cent. of the Protestant Christians are Lutherans. We are just beginning in China, especially as a United Lutheran Church. May this year's study help us to consecrate our lives and money and prayers to do for China what we have done and will continue to do for India.

WHY WERE THE SAINTS, SAINTS?

Because they were cheerful when it was difficult to be cheerful, patient when it was difficult to be patient; and because they pushed on when they wanted to stand still, and kept silent when they wanted to talk, and were agreeable when they wanted to be disagreeable. That was all.

It was quite simple and always will be.



Junior Department

"TAKE CARE OF THE JUNIORS AND THE SENIOR LEAGUE WILL TAKE CARE OF ITSELF"

THE 1925 TOPICS

- Jan. 4. (Missionary)—Boys and Girls of China.
- Jan. 11. (Bible Story)—Scenes in the Life of Moses.
- Jan. 18. (Picture Study)—"Christ Blessing Little Children."
- Jan. 25. (Hero Story)—Passavant: The Friend of the Poor.
- Feb. 1. (Missionary)—Our Brothers and Sisters in India.
- Feb. 8. (Bible Story)—Joseph the True Hearted, and Some Josephs of Later Times.
- Feb. 15. (Picture Study)—"The Good Shepherd."
- Feb. 22. (Hero Story)—Father Heyer: The Friend of India.
- Mar. 1. (Missionary)—Little Cousins in Japan.
- Mar. 8. (Bible Story)—Esther: A Queen Who Saved Her People.
- Mar. 15. (Lenten)—The Last Supper (picture).
- Mar. 22. (Lenten)—In the Garden (picture).
- Mar. 29. (Lenten)—The Trial (picture).
- Apr. 5. (Lenten)—The Crucifixion (picture).
- Apr. 12. (Easter)—"He Is Risen" (picture).
- Apr. 19. (Missionary)—Children of Africa.
- Apr. 26. (Bible Story)—Samson: The Strong Man.

JUNIOR READING COURSE.

- Chinese Lanterns.—Meyer.
- Uncle Sam's Family.—McConnell.
- The Marigold Horse.—Seebach.
- Through Story-Land With the Children.—Faulkner.
- Martin of Mansfeld.—Seebach.
- The Best Bible Tales.—Hurst.

"SOME PROGRAMS!"

Here is the program of the series of four conferences conducted by the Philadelphia District for Junior and Intermediate workers during last November:

(1) Opening Devotions Discussions—

- What is a Junior League?
- How do you conduct a Junior League?
- Building a program—opening exercises, roll call, business, the Topic, special features, closing.
- Bible stories, drills.
- Music.

- Hand-work to use with the Topics.
- The Junior Topics—how to use them.
- The Junior child: his characteristics.

- Demonstration of a Junior meeting.
- Announcements.
- Lord's Prayer.

(2) Opening Devotions.

Discussions—

- Teaching Luther in the Junior League.
- Teaching the work of the Luther League.
- The study of our Church and its works.
- Story-telling.
- Black-board work.
- Plays and pageants.
- Thanksgiving and Christmas Hints.
- Christmas Handiwork.

- Christmas Pageant—"A Nativity Play"—(given by Junior League).

Announcements.

Lord's Prayer.

(3) Opening Devotions.

Discussions—

- Missionary work in the Junior League.
- Study of "Chinese Lanterns."
- Study of "Better Americans—Number Two."
- Missionary games, stories, hand-work.
- The Plans and Purposes of the Intermediate League.
- Intermediate Topics.
- Intermediate Merit System.
- "16-Point" Program.
- Intermediate Reading Course.

Announcements.

Lord's Prayer.

(4) Supper.

Inspirational addresses—

- Plans for Junior work in the District.

Our Juniors—Our Responsibility for the Future.

Enlisting the Intermediates.

What the Seniors owe the 'Teen-agers.

Song Service.

Pageant—"The Way"—(by Intermediate League).

Closing Talk—"Catching the Vision."

Is there not a suggestion here for some Junior work in *your* District? Can not such a series of conferences be held? Or cannot some of this program be presented at your convention or rally?

* * *

Do you plan a program of activities for your year's work in Junior League?

Here is the program of "special events" which the Junior League of Grace Church, N. S., Pittsburgh, Pa., has arranged, in addition to their regular weekly Sunday afternoon devotional meetings, when they study the Junior Topics:

Sept. 14.—Rally Day with Pageant, "The Story of Queen Esther."

Installation of new officers.

Sept. 21.—Membership Contest starts.

Oct. 22.—27th Anniversary Celebration.

Nov. 8.—District Junior Rally.

Luther Day Celebration.

Pageant "Even These Little Ones."

December.—Christmas Party.

January.—New Year Program.

February.—Valentine Social.

March.—Stereopticon Pictures.

April.—Easter Cantata.

May.—May Day Festival (on church lot).

June.—"Mothers' and Dads' Nite."

July.—Picnic.

If you have not already outlined your program for the season, start the year right by outlining your work from January until at least July. Things do not "just happen" in Junior League; they must be planned.

* * *

Here is the program of the Philadelphia District Junior Convention, held on November 8, in St. Paul's Church:

Opening Devotions—In charge of Junior Chairman of District.

Song Service.

Greetings—From local pastor.

From District Senior President.

Address of Welcome—District Junior President.

Business—Report of last convention; awarding of banner for largest delegation; presentation of definite objective for Juniors of District.

Exercises by Juniors—

Junior Choir—Tabernacle Church.

"Luther's Coat of Arms"—Junior League, St. Paul's.

"Story of Queen Esther"—Junior League, St. Matthew's.

Bible Alphabet—Junior League, Martin Luther Neighborhood House.

Pantomime—"My Faith Looks Up To Thee," Junior League, Apostles.

Thanksgiving Exercises — Junior League, Zion, Olney.

"Wanted: A Leader,"—Juniors, Trinity, Germantown.

Reformation Exercises—Martin Luther, Atonement Junior League.

Junior Rally Hymn.

Closing—Prayer and Benediction.

Social Hour.

Can you not arrange a Junior convention for the boys and girls of your district? The Seniors are directly responsible for the training of the future Leaguers. Let them have a convention of their very own. Encourage them in their efforts.

NEWS.

The Northeast District of the Pennsylvania League had Junior work presented at their recent convention held in Wilkes-Barre.

The Summit Hill Junior League gave a demonstration at the annual convention of the Upper Lehigh District held at Summit Hill, Pa.

Grace Junior League, N.S., Pittsburgh, Pa., celebrated its 27th birthday on October 22. With the exception of the summer months, they have not missed holding their regular weekly devotional meeting every Sunday afternoon during these 27 years. Congratulations to you, Grace Juniors.

At the Workers' Conference of the B. M. C. District, a Junior Conference was conducted.

The Junior League of Advent Church, New York City, gave three exercises at a public meeting held in November.

At the Brooklyn and Long Island District convention held November 8 the Junior League of Advent, New York City, at the conclusion of the banquet, rendered an entertainment of several numbers. About 25 Juniors participated under the direction of Sister Pearle.

At the New York City District Convention held November 15, the Advent Junior League rendered several exercises and a Junior Conference was conducted.

New York State Luther League has said, "We will have 50 new Junior and Intermediate Luther Leagues this year." Pennsylvania, what about it? Accept the challenge. Can we beat that? We can. Shall we? Let us make it 75. All work together and we can. ACCEPT NEW YORK'S CHALLENGE!

REGISTERED JUNIOR LEAGUES.

63. Lutheran Church, Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands.
64. Holy Trinity, Hasbrouck Heights, N. J.
65. Grace Church, Red Lion, Pa.
66. St. John's, Shenandoah, Pa.
67. Union, York, Pa.
68. Christ, Milvalle, Pa.
69. First, Vandergrift, Pa.
70. St. John's, East Liverpool, Ohio.
71. Grace, Rochester, Pa.
72. St. Stephen's, Pittsburgh, Pa.
73. Christ, Spry, Pa.
74. Zion, Hummelstown, Pa.
75. St. Paul's, Lititz, Pa.
76. St. John's, Columbia, Pa.
77. Christ, York, Pa.
78. St. Paul's, Pitscain, Pa.
79. Tabitha Home, Lincoln, Nebraska.
80. Holy Trinity, Salem, Ohio.
81. Zion, Glen Rock, Pa.
82. St. Matthew's, Crafton, Pa.
83. House of Prayer, Woodlawn, Pa.

Let's close the year with 100 registered Leagues. We can easily, for we have over 200 Junior Leagues. Send in on a post card, the name of your Church, number of Juniors enrolled, when organized, and the name and address of the Superintendent.

THE TOPICS.

January 4, 1925.

BOYS AND GIRLS OF CHINA

(Missionary)

Mark 10:13-14.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday—Obedient Chinese Children. Col. 3:20.
 Tuesday—Chinese Respect for Learning. Prov. 5:1, 2.
 Wednesday—Chinese Honor Parents. Lev. 19:3.
 Thursday—Chinese Ignorant. Gal. 1:13.
 Friday—Chinese Religions. Acts 17:23.
 Saturday—Chinese Teachable. Ps. 34:11.

POSTER ANNOUNCING THE MEETING.

A large sheet of bright yellow cardboard cut out lantern shape, with flowers, butterflies or Chinese figures cut from a roll of crepe paper decorating it, and the verse—"Children in blue and what they do

At our Chinese meeting we'll show to you."

PROGRAM.

Hymn—"We've A Story To Tell To The Nations"—(In Missionary Hymnal)—15¢ from Women's Missionary Society, 723 Muhlenberg Bldg., Philadelphia.

Daily Bible Readings—Given by six Juniors.
Introduction to Topic—By leader or superintendent:

We are going to talk today of a big country—of a land across the sea where four hundred million people live, where boys and girls romp and play just as you do, and love many of the things you do. There is one great difference, however, which we will find out before our meet-

ing is over. These boys and girls do not know—but that is telling our story before it begins!

Let us look at this big country a minute. (Have a map of China on the wall, or draw one on blackboard.) It covers four million square miles. One of its big cities is Peking (point out on map), and one of the big rivers—larger than our Mississippi—is the Yangtsi-Kiang. That is enough of the geography of China.

Our United Lutheran Church is beginning work in China. It has just bought a mission station with churches and schools. Now we can work in this land. Wouldn't it be fine, if the Juniors of the Junior Leagues everywhere could help start a kindergarten or school there?

Some Facts About China—By ten Juniors.

1. China is the oldest country in the world.

2. China covers four million square miles of territory, just a trifle more than the territory of the United States.

3. China's population consisting of one fourth of all the people in the world, is four hundred million—four times the population of the United States.

4. China's history goes back many centuries before Christ; the first people from Europe reached China about 300 or 400 years after the birth of Christ, but it was only in 1841 that a few of the cities were open to foreigners.

5. Today China is awake and active. The country is a Republic just like ours.

6. China is famous the world over for her rugs, fans, fine silks and beautiful embroideries.

7. The principal crops of China are cotton, rice, beans, tea, ginger, indigo, hemp.

8. There are about 1,500 large cities in China.

9. There are many poor people in China, and much need of doctors.

10. The principal religions of China are Confucianism, Buddhism, and Taoism.

The Topic.—Leader—Now let us look at the boys and girls of China, and find out something about them. Who will tell us something about them?

First Junior—The boys and girls of China are all black haired and black-eyed. They enjoy the games we do, they play many that we know, and like candy—and school just as we do. They dress mostly in blue cotton suits—jackets and trousers so we can call them "Children in Blue."

Leader—What about their play?

Second Junior—They play Tag, and Three Deep and Follow the Leader just as we—these are really Chinese games. Then they have special celebrations or

holidays which they enjoy just as we do. New Year's Day is a great festival. But they celebrate it with fire-crackers; just as we do our Fourth of July! Now they have a real Independence Day, too since China has become a Republic.

Leader—What about work in China?

Third Junior—The children in China learn early to work. They help about the house, and the poorer families must have their children work in the rice fields and in the tea gardens. Then many of the little girls work in the silk-factories where all day long they help in the work of changing the funny, wound-up cocoon of a silk-worm into bright, beautiful pieces of silk.

Leader—What about the homes of these children?

Fourth Junior—Most of the homes—all of the poorer ones—and most of them are poor, contain little furniture. The seat of honor is farthest from the door, and on entering it is polite to take the one nearest the door, and gradually let oneself be persuaded to go to the higher one. The food is served on tables, with a large bowl in the centre from which each one helps himself. Boys are very welcome, but even now little girls are often considered a nuisance.

Leader—What about the religion? Do these boys and girls of China know of Jesus?

Fifth Junior—Oh; dear no! There are many, many gods in China, but not the one True God. This is the difference between us and these little Chinese cousins of ours. One's ancestors are worshipped in China, and there is a god for this, and a god for that, and a god for almost everything that happens! There is a Kitchen God which must be worshipped or something will happen in the home. There are huge, hideous idols of wood or stone in the temples which must have prayers said to them, or some harm will come.

It is only when our missionaries go and tell them that they know of Jesus, the friend of little children.

These missionaries are teaching and building schools and helping as fast as they can to carry the message of the Gospel. But they need help. They need our prayers, they need our gifts, they need some of us when we grow big to go and help them. Will we do this?

Discussion—(Allow time for the children to talk over these things, ask more about them—be ready to answer their questions.)

Sentence Prayers—For China by the Juniors—for the missionaries at work there, for the new work our Church has

undertaken, for the Junior League that it may help the work in some way.

Hymn—"Fling Out The Banner" (Sunday School Book).

Closing Prayer—For China—by a Junior.
Lord's Prayer.

* * *

Social Hour.—At the close of the meeting have a short social period. Several of the Juniors in Chinese costume (easily made of blue chintz trimmed with flowered or white material, made over a pajama pattern) can serve tea and crackers, a few games can be played and perhaps a musical number.

SUGGESTION.

Follow this meeting with plans for a class meeting for six weeks' on the Junior book, "Chinese Lanterns" (50 cents, paper, 75 cents cloth). Meet for six special meetings and tell or have told the interesting stories in this book of a boy and girl in China at one of the mission schools. The following material will make this class interesting:

Picture Sheets—"Chinese Snapshots" and "Chinese Boys and Girls"—25 cents each—from which to make posters, displays, etc.

Map of China, outline about 28 x 32—25 cents.

Chinese Home Cut-Out—A pattern for a typical Chinese house, and a model of a Chinese village—50 cents—to be worked out by the Juniors.

"With Scissors and Crayon"—25 cents—fascinating patterns for handwork and directions for making.

The Chinese flag can be easily made and displayed at the meetings by the Juniors. It is composed of five stripes, horizontally arranged, red on top, yellow, blue, white and black. (Note that these are our League colors!) They can be made from crepe paper, or better, of chintz.

Chinese lanterns in all designs can be made for decorative purposes of crepe paper. Write Dennison Manufacturing Company, 1007 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, for directions.

Appoint a Decoration Committee, and make the room attractive for these Chinese meetings.

—♦—

January 11, 1925.

SCENES IN THE LIFE OF MOSES (Bible Story)

Exodus 2:10.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday—The Baby Moses. Exodus 2:5-10.

Tuesday—Moses Lives in Midian. Exodus 2:15, 3:1.

Wednesday—Moses Called. Exodus 3:6, 7, 9.

Thursday—Moses Receives the Commandments.

Exodus 19:19, 20:21.

Friday—Moses Makes the Brazen Serpent. Numbers 21:8, 9; John 3:14.

Saturday—Moses' Charge to Joshua. Deut. 3:28.

POSTER TO ADVERTISE THE MEETING.

Draw on a white card the Two Tables of Stone—marking the Commandments in Roman numerals, and print below "Come to Junior League, and hear the stories of Moses, on —, at — o'clock."

PROGRAM.

Opening Hymn.—Let the Juniors select a favorite hymn—a familiar one—to open the meeting.

Devotional Period.—Two Tablets of Stone. First Commandment. (Get the leaflet "Two Tablets of Stone"—2¢ from the office, which gives a Bible story, a suggested hymn, a lesson and the memorizing of a verse, for each Commandment).

Daily Bible Readings.—Given by six Juniors.

The Topic.—Leader—We will hear today of one of God's great men, Moses, whom He chose to lead His people from the land of bondage to a Land of Promise. It is a great thing to be a leader; and boys and girls even as Juniors can begin to learn those things which made Moses a great leader, and which will help them become great in following the Lord—meekness, faith, trust and perseverance.

The first scene in the life of Moses is one that we all know, the story of Moses as a baby.

First Junior.—Tell story of Moses and the princess. (The story of the baby Moses is familiar to even the smallest children—and one of the Juniors can readily tell in his own words the story of the saving of the baby.)

Leader.—Moses grew up first in his own home and afterward in the home of the princess. He never forgot the teachings of his godly parents, however, and he always remembered his own people. One day one of them was in danger. Can some one tell us this scene in Moses' life?

Second Junior.—Moses one day saw one of his people—a Jew—being cruelly treated by one of the Egyptians. He slew the cruel Egyptian and was forced to flee from the land of Egypt.

Leader.—Where was the next forty years of Moses' life spent?

Third Junior.—The third scene in Moses' life was in the land of Midian. Here he lived as a shepherd, was living close to God and preparing for the great work which the Lord had for him—to take the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt. When the time was ready, God spoke to Moses and bade him go to the king, Pharaoh, and ask that the children of Israel be allowed to depart.

Leader.—What is the next great scene in Moses' life?

Fourth Junior.—After many difficulties, the great journey was begun, and the great army of Jewish people started to the Land of Promise which God had in store for them. Just before them was the Red Sea. How should they cross it and how escape from the angry Egyptians who already were following them to keep them back? Moses' rod raised in his right hand became a mighty power—the waters were parted, huge banks of water were piled up on each side, and the Children of Israel passed over safely. And the Egyptians? They too try to pass over and overtake the fleeing Israelites. But the columns of water were not held back by an Unseen Hand for these Egyptians for God was not with them, they did not believe on Him. The waters rushed over all, men, chariots, horses, and the whole company was drowned.

Leader.—What great scene comes in the life of Moses next?

Fifth Junior.—After many years of wandering through the wilderness, when God was testing the people, and trying whether they were ready to obey all His commands, God gives Moses His great laws. God gave Moses exact directions as to just what was to be done. Moses was to leave the camp, and go up the mountain side, and there wait until God spoke to him. Moses obeyed, the mountain was covered with darkness and smoke, and from the darkness came the Voice which gave to Moses the laws which were from that time to govern his people—the laws which have come down to us and which we know as the Ten Commandments. Moses wrote these down on two tables of stone, just as God gave them to him.

When Moses came down from the mountain, he found the people had become tired and weary with waiting, and had fallen into wickedness. They wanted something to worship so had made an image of brass taking all the brass things they could find in the camp and melting them together and from this molten mass fashioning a Golden Calf which they worshipped. Moses becomes angry with them, the two tables are broken and only afterward when the people are repentant and ready to obey God are the two tables with the Law written upon them given again to Moses.

Leader.—What is the last scene in Moses' life?

Sixth Junior.—After many years of wanderings after sending spies in to see the land which God was to give them after turning aside and going back again into the Wilderness because of the wicked-

edness of the people at last Moses again came in sight of the Land. He had lived 120 years, his successor, the soldier Joshua was already chosen, and in the land of Moab, Moses died.

Leader.—What do these scenes in the life of Moses teach us?

Seventh Junior.—Moses was meek. He did not believe that he had wonderful powers, but knew that all he could do was because of the power God gave him. Juniors should not be so proud and boastful of what they can do that they forget that it is God who has given them all they have and are.

Moses did not become impatient nor murmur against God, but went straight ahead and lead the people toward the land God had promised them. Sometimes Juniors "become weary in well doing," they forget to read their Bible daily, they forget to come to Junior League, they become discouraged if things do not go as they wish, or if they cannot have their own way.

Moses trusted in God for help. So Juniors should look to God and trust Him in all things. The things God wants them to do is taught them in Church, Sunday School and Junior League, hence Juniors should be found in these places.

Discussion.—Superintendent may talk over these various scenes with the Juniors.

Prayers.—Sentence prayers by Juniors—for the faith and trust of Moses, that we may become leaders and workers in the Church.

Closing Hymn—(Another hymn selected by the Juniors.)

Lord's Prayer.

SUGGESTION.

The story of the baby Moses lends itself well to dramatization, and a group of Juniors can easily act it out. Assign the week before the characters of the sister, the mother, the princess and several of her maids to a number of the Juniors (a doll may be used for Moses), see that they know the story clearly, and let them act it out in their own way.

If you prefer to assign speaking parts to them, the story is worked out completely in the book "Dramatization of Bible Stories"—Miller, which you can order for \$1.25 from the United Lutheran Publication House, 1228 Spruce St., Philadelphia.

—❖— "CHRIST BLESSING LITTLE CHILDREN"

(Picture Study)

January 18, 1925.

Mark 10:13-16.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday—Bringing Children to Jesus. Matt. 19:13-15.

Tuesday—Happy Children Singing Hosannas. Matt. 21:15-17.

Wednesday—The Child Jesus. Luke 2:51, 52.

Thursday—Children and the New Jerusalem. Zec. 8:5.

Friday—The Child in the Midst. Mark 9:36.

Saturday—The Child and the Kingdom. Mark 10:15.

POSTER ANNOUNCING THE MEETING.

This meeting can be best advertised by pasting the picture "Christ Blessing the Children" on a large sheet of cardboard, and the time and date of meeting underneath.

PROGRAM.

Hymn.—"I Think When I Read That Sweet Story of Old."

Daily Bible Readings.—By six Juniors.

Introduction to Topic by Superintendent.—

I am sure that we all like pictures. There is hardly a girl or a boy who does not like a picture book. When some of our great artists were thinking of what they might paint, many of them thought of the Bible, and the stories there, and some of the very finest pictures we have are those which show some great story in the Bible or tell us of some scene in our Saviour's life. In our Junior League we are going in some of our meetings to learn about some of these pictures, see the story they tell us; and learn some of the lessons they tell us.

Today's picture is one we all love. It is called "Christ Blessing the Children," and was painted by an artist named Ploekhorst. Its story is one of the most beautiful in the Bible. We will hear about it from a number of Juniors.

Leader.—Who can tell us the story of this picture?

First Junior.—*The Story.* Jesus had been traveling up and down through Galilee, stopping at Capernaum, and then going along the coasts of Judea. He had taught the people, healed the sick and now the people crowded around Him again to hear the wonderful words He spoke. He must have been weary and He and the disciples were about to leave, when yet another group comes. Junior reads Mark 10:13-16.

Leader.—How does the artist paint this scene in our picture?

Second Junior.—*The picture.* Our artist has given us a beautiful picture of this scene. The country in which Jesus lived was an outdoor country. Off in the distance we see the hills. Nearby is a shady spot with overhanging trees and a well. We see people with the water-bottles on their heads returning after filling them at the well, and nearby is a shepherd with the sheep which he has brought to the well for water. Jesus Himself is seated on the well.

Leader.—Who came first into this picture?

Third Junior.—“And they brought young children to Him that He should touch them.” You see the mothers, three of them—there must have been many more whom the artist could not put into the picture—with their eager, anxious faces, so earnestly looking at the Saviour and hoping that He will not turn the children away, but will have some of His gracious words for them, too.

Leader.—What did the disciples do?

Fourth Junior.—“And His disciples rebuked those that brought them.” Back of the mothers stand some of Jesus' disciples just ready to turn the mothers aside and send them home. Their faces are troubled and they try to keep the mothers from bringing the children. Why bring them here? Why worry the Saviour with them? See how one has even placed his hand on the shoulder of one of the mothers as if to draw her back!!

The Leader.—And what did Jesus say?

Fifth Junior.—“And when Jesus saw it, He was much displeased and said unto them, “Suffer the little children to come unto me.” The little children are not afraid, nor do they hold back. See how they crowd around the Saviour! They know Jesus is their Friend. With smiling faces and happy hearts they press right up to Him. One little fellow runs up with his hands outstretched, just as he would run to meet his father, or some one he dearly loves. Another curly-haired little boy has gathered a branch of a tree by the way and another has a handful of flowers which they most likely will offer Him. Even the tiny baby in its mother's arms seems glad that Jesus is there. And Jesus does not send them away. With kindness in His eyes, and a smile on His face, He takes one of the smallest children in His arms, and placing His hand on the head of the little one who had crowded right up to Him, He blesses all these children and asks His Heavenly Father to care for them and watch over them.

The Leader.—What did Jesus then say about these children?

Sixth Junior.—“For of such is the Kingdom of God.” The best part of it all is what the Saviour said, “Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.” By this He meant that all who wished to worship God truly and follow Him must become like little children, loving trustful, innocent and good—and they would all have to want to come to Jesus just as these children did. The oldest child in the picture, the one at the side, with the garlands in her hair, looks up at the Saviour as if she understood just a little bit of this, and the little dark-haired girl standing timid-

ly in front of her mother wonders just what it means, but feels that the Saviour is her friend, too.

The Leader.—What lesson does this picture teach us?

Seventh Junior.—Our parents are anxious for us to have the Saviour as our Friend, too. They gave us to Him in baptism, when we were tiny children. They are bringing us to Him all the time by sending us to Sunday School and church and Junior League. Let us be as anxious as these children in our picture to come and learn about Him, and the things He wants us to do, so that we may be His children.

SUGGESTION.

To use with this lesson and with the rest of the Picture Lessons included in the Topics as given at the head of this department seven Perry Pictures in the two cent size are needed. If you desire these send 20 cents in stamps for the Picture Packet. This will include seven pictures, one for the picture lessons in January and February and five for the Lenten lessons.

A large copy of each of these seven pictures can be secured from the Perry Picture Company, Malden, Mass., for seventy cents.

SAFE SECRETS

She—“How is it that widows generally manage to marry again?”

He—“Because dead men tell no tales.”
Harper's Magazine.

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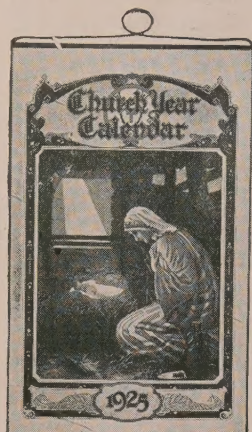
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1925



The calendar for 1925 is unusually attractive. The cover picture is reproduced in five colors. The other twelve pictures are reproduced in four colors, all by the offset process on a strong dull finished, soft paper.

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The Calendar contains Scriptural quotations for daily Bible readings, the Gospel and Epistle Lessons and the colors for the Church Year.

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